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'Manila's injuries caused by his physicians. PAGE 7

Hafa Adai!

75¢

# Saipan Tribune

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### IN IPI VS CCC CASE

# Judge extends TRO anew

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
Kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona Manglona has extended once more the temporary restraining order against the Commonwealth Casino Commission that prohibits it from releasing the audited financial statements of Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC.

See JUDGE on Page 4

**SUMMER CAMP**
Participants of the 2019 Summer Youth Empowerment Camp perform the Carolinian Stick Dance yesterday during the final day of the camp at the San Isidro Youth Center.
MARC A. VENUS

See story on Page 3

## Finance remits $1.3M to MVA

### » MVA continues 72-hour austerity measure

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Iakopo

The Department of Finance remitted to the Marianas Visitors Authority yesterday $500,000 in hotel occupancy tax collection, according MVA managing director Priscilla M. Iakopo.

Iakopo told *Saipan Tribune* that Finance also remitted to MVA $400,000 in hotel occupancy tax last July 9 and another $480,000 last July 30.

She said the $880,000 total remittance in

See FINANCE on Page 4

## 'Hundreds of bones still stored in warehouse'

### » IPI wants to finalize with HPO as to where to put the ancestral remains, artifacts

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Hundreds of ancestral remains and other artifacts excavated from the site where the Imperial Palace casino/resort in Garapan is being built remains stored in a warehouse in Lower Base and IPI wants to finalize a plan on where to store them permanently.

Eric Poon, Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC's assistant vice president of construction, told the Commonwealth Casino Commission during CCC's meeting Wednesday that the remains are in one of their warehouses and it's been there for quite some time now.

See BONES on Page 4

## INSIDE

**BUSINESS**
The CNMI's "little artists" now have a place to call home in the heart of Garapan.

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**ASIA**
Bangladesh is facing its worst-ever dengue fever outbreak as hospitals are flooded with patients.

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**OFF THE WALL**
A migration of mild-mannered grasshoppers are sweeping through the Las Vegas area.

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# Local

## Showers to increase over the weekend

The National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, predicts that showers would increase over the weekend.

According NWS, they continue to monitor two systems to the west and north of the Marianas as they gradually become more organized.

NWS expects the systems to become better organized starting this weekend up until next week. However, the monsoonal flow from the systems will be drawn to the Marianas, bringing increased showers over the weekend through next week.

Although the systems are not forecasted to directly impact the Marianas, showers are expected to increase, southwest winds and ocean swells will increase and cause hazardous surf, and the Marianas will see winds of up to 20 miles per hour.

Looking at the big picture, NWS reports that they are beginning to see signs of activity. A monsoon trough was seen parked far north of the Northern Marianas for the past week.

Models also indicate increased potential for some circulations to develop. Although they are not expected to directly affect the Marianas, the presence will help strengthen the monsoon flow across Micronesia and will bring more moisture to the Marianas as the weeks progress. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

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# Apatang: SHEFA must follow everybody

The Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance program, much like other government programs and agencies, has to comply with the mandates of "Austerity Payday Fridays," as directed by the governor, according to Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang.

At their meeting yesterday on the possibility of still operating during "Austerity Payday Fridays," SHEFA board member Francisco Cabrera said that they must consult with the Saipan mayor on the subject since the order is a directive from the governor.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres reduced the 80-hour work week to 72 hours effective last July 5.

SHEFA was appropriated $470,001.01 through Saipan Local Law 21-5, and $250,000 of the appropriations is reserved for SHEFA personnel and operations.

"I know we're in austerity but does this appropriation lift us out of these measures?" asked SHEFA board member Raymond Muña.

Apatang said, however, that SHEFA "must follow everybody under the governor's directive."

He said the appropriation will help SHEFA be able to pay for operations expenses and other expenses; the rest of the appropriation will be carried over for future expenses.

He said his office and SHEFA must comply with Torres' directive and observe every other Friday as "Austerity Friday."

"We just have to plan accordingly and complete all of our required tasks before austerity Friday," Apatang said. ***(Marc A. Venus)***

# CAO, DYS complete summer youth camps

The Carolinian Affairs Office and the Division of Youth Services capped off its 2019 Summer Youth Empowerment Camp yesterday at the San Isidro Youth Center with a final graduation party for about 45 participants in this second and final half of the camps.

The participants entertained their parents and guests with dances and songs, including traditional dances, with the 10- to 12-year-old boys doing the Carolinian warrior dance and the other age groups performing stick dances and the Carolinian mass dance.

The Summer Youth Empowerment Camp was composed of two different camps.

Aside from being taught folk songs and dances, the participants were introduced to playing the ukulele, bead making, and *mwaar*-making (head leis).

Camp participants were also introduced to different sports such as kickball, basketball, and others, courtesy of Latte Built. For the final week, the participants were given three days to practice for the final day and they were given about three days to practice for the event.

According to CAO office manager Vivian Nogis, the participants spent the first week of the camp learning some of the basics of singing and dancing, but were also taught bead- and *mwaar* making.

DYS administrator Vivian Sablan gave credit to all the camp instructors and volunteers for the success of the summer camps.

DYS Family & Youth Enhancement Program supervisor Jennifer Tanaka said that she was impressed by the participants' performances and hopes that they will incorporate the skills that they have learned in their lives.

Despite a slight dip in the number of camp participants this year, Tanaka still described the camp as a major success. ***(Marc A. Venus)***

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# Fr. Rosal, 14 others take oath as new US citizens

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Fr. Rey Dejon Rosal, the parish priest of San Jose on Tinian, was one of 15 people who took their oaths of allegiance as new U.S. citizens during a naturalization ceremony yesterday in the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

With the citizenship, Rosal no longer considers himself a "visitor" in the CNMI. "At last. I waited for this to really complete my personality here," said the 58-year-old Rosal.

Rosal originally came from Ormoc, Leyte, in the Philippines. He first arrived on Saipan on Feb. 20, 2004, to serve as a priest reliever at San Antonio Church for a month when the parish priest was on vacation.

"Later on, I was asked to stay for a while to work here. Then I ended up here forever," said Rosal with a smile.

For 57-year-old Maria Lee Bignayan Labadan, obtaining her citizenship is an honor. Labadan, a native of Iloilo City, Philippines, first came to the island in 1989 when she worked at a garment factory. She married Daniel Palacios Agulto and together, they had six children. Of that number, three are with the U.S. Navy. Agulto passed away in 2003.

Labadan then worked at the Department of Labor in 1992, where she is now an executive secretary.

Leo Cela Clamor is thankful that, at 67 years old, he finally obtained U.S. citizenship. Clamor, who hails from Eastern Samar, Philippines, first arrived on the island in 1979 as a welder. Clamor's eldest of two children is now with the U.S. Army.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona accepted Immigration Services Officer Tammy Henry's motion to accept the 15 applicants as new U.S. citizens.

Most of the new citizens are from the Philippines and the rest are from China, South Korea, and Japan.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), who served as the guest speaker at the ceremony, took a swipe at President Donald Trump, who told his fellow citizens to "go home."

"He was wrong. America is our home. It will always be our home," he said. "Real Americans will never tell you to go back where you came from."

Sablan told the new citizens that real Americans—just like they are now real Americans—will always say "let us all go forward together."

Sablan said the naturalized citizens chose America and that America chose them as full and equal members of the nation.

He said most believe that America is a land of immigrants. "We believe America's strength comes from its ability to welcome a diversity of talents, and new traditions and points of view," he said.

Sablan acknowledged that "there is a divide, but not a partisan divide."

The delegate said the divide is between patriots, who truly believe in the values American stands for, and those who do not believe in America.

To prove it is not partisan, Sablan played in the courtroom a four-minute video about former president Ronald Reagan's final speech from the White House, in which spoke about the value of immigrants to America.

Sablan described Reagan as a great communicator and an icon of the Republican Party.

"Someone who understood well that America is better, and richer, and stronger because we welcome people—like you—to join us as citizens," Sablan said.

Aside from Rosal, Labadan, and Clamor, the other new citizens were Samylyn Tupas Atalig, Young Soon Choi, Joselito Ramirez Ejercito, Marilyn Montajes Ejercito, Patricio Barnachea Fieldad, Zenaida Medina Fieldad, Sanghoon Kim, Satoko Kishimoto Kobayashi, Hao Guo Mason, Iva Joy Borja Maurin, Erlinda Vismanos Pacheco, and Dennis De Guia Tupas.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), and Immigration Services Officer Tammy Henry join the 15 new U.S. citizens in a group photo after yesterday's naturalization ceremony in the District Court.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## JUDGE

*From Page 1*

During the continuance of the hearing for a preliminary injunction yesterday, Manglona heard the arguments of IPI, its subsidiaries, and CCC and, after over two hours, she said she would have to extend the TRO.

The TRO was set to expire today at 11:59pm.

Manglona explained that she was extending the TRO because she was unsure if she would be able to come up with a decision on the preliminary injunction by the TRO's deadline, since there was a lot of material she had to look over and take advisement of.

Manglona extended the TRO to Aug. 8; it is set to expire at exactly 11:59pm.

She said this will give her enough time to come out with an order and allow the parties to discuss the order once it is released.

During the hearing yesterday, assistant attorney general Benjamin Petersburg, arguing for the CCC, emphasized that there would be no irreparable damage, as IPI claims, if a preliminary injunction is not granted because the information has already been leaked to the public and because witness testimony did say that the damage can be remediated.

He reiterated this point during his closing arguments, pointing out that IPI's financial reports are already out in public after it was entered in the Legislature and leaked on various social media platforms.

Petersburg also referenced the testimony of Shen Yan, president of the global capital market for Imperial Pacific International LLC in Hong Kong, who earlier testified that investors would be negatively affected, yes, but Yan also mentioned that it would make his job, to raise funds for IPI and entice investors, merely harder and not impossible. "So, if there were any damage, it is repairable," Petersburg said.

*Saipan Tribune* archives show that Yan testified that the release of information like audited financial reports would cause negative impact on investors because there's the issue with confidentiality as well as interpretation that could be false and cause questions about IPI's financial stability to arise.

IPI lawyer Viola Alepuyo she said she felt the testimony was fair and effectively proved what they needed proven.

"What IPI needed to show was when confidential information is released, there's a harm and we showed that harm," she said.

## FINANCE

*From Page 1*

July covers the January 2019 hotel occupancy tax only.

The $500,000 remittance, on the other hand, covers the remaining January 2019 hotel occupancy tax and partial of February 2019.

She said that, as of June, Finance still owes MVA $4.7 million in hotel occupancy tax.

With respect to MVA's offshore offices, Iakopo said they will pay a total of $520,000, which are the 90-days-and-over in payables.

"Once that is paid, we will have a balance of approximately $700,000" covering the May and June 2019 invoices, she said.

MVA has not received the July invoices in full.

Iakopo, on the other hand, said the MVA board has approved retaining the austerity measures for MVA personnel at 72 hours.

"The board agreed to use the 'building fund'—approximately $260,000—to pay remaining 90-days-and-over payables," she said.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that the "building fund" is a funding source MVA has been putting aside to build its own permanent building.

The lease of the MVA building in San Jose expires in two years.

Early last month, Rep. Joseph "Lee Pan" T. Guerrero (R-Saipan) urged Finance to transmit the $5.1 million in hotel occupancy tax collection that is owed MVA, saying Finance is technically violating the law by failing to remit the fund.

Guerrero, who chairs the House Committee on Commerce and Tourism, said MVA is currently in the 90-day aging of non-payment to its offshore offices in the amount of $1.9 million.

He said these offshore offices are there to promote the CNMI and MVA cannot pay them because of Finance's failure to remit what is due the MVA.

Under the law, 80% of the hotel occupancy tax collection goes to MVA, while the 20 percent goes to the Settlement Fund.

## BONES

*From Page 1*

Poon said they have been talking with the Historic Preservation Office in a couple of meetings as to where they should put those remains.

Poon discussed the issue following CCC secretary Ramon Muña Dela Cruz's inquiry as to where the remains will be finally taken or reburied, saying the indigenous residents of the CNMI are "very superstitious.

He said there is talk and belief among the local population that IPI is going through a lot of challenges in the construction of the casino/resort because the final disposition of the ancestral remains is "unattended or unresolved."

Dela Cruz urged IPI to resolve that issue as soon as possible.

Poon agreed with Dela Cruz, saying they have high respect for the ancestral remains.

When asked by acting CCC chair Joseph Reyes as to how long it would take for IPI and HPO to decide on where the remains and artifacts should be taken, Poon said they had already had a lot of meetings, public hearings, and there have been recommendations.

It has already come down to making a final decision on where to put them, Poon said, as IPI is already conducting landscaping work at the project site.

He said they sat down with HPO three to four months ago. "We try to revisit what we have before," he said.

Reyes told Poon to inform CCC as soon as IPI and HPO make a final decision.

CCC executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero said that, based on the sketch or layout of the casino/resort project, there was a section that was proposed for the permanent interment of the remains.

Subsequent to that, Deleon Guerrero said, there were discussions regarding the danger of the remains being washed out to sea due to future typhoons.

Deleon Guerrero said he will invite HPO to the next CCC meeting so it could explain to them what is their current decision on the remains.

He noted that there were over 300 ancestral remains that were also recovered from the same area during an excavation before the IPI project.

Deleon Guerrero said he understands that the government is assessing its current policy in reference to maybe finding a central location to house all ancestral remains and items, rather than in scattered burial sites.

He said it makes sense to find a location dedicated as a sacred ground, where every archeological findings from various locations on Saipan can be centralized in a museum.

He said there should be an actual area where the Marianas Visitors Authority, the CNMI Museum, and the Indigenous Affairs can all work together and declare it a sacred place.

Deleon Guerrero did clarify that this is merely his unofficial view on the matter.

# Judge to CUC and the NMI govt: What's status now?

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge David O. Carter has ordered the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and the CNMI government to inform the court of the status of all grants relating to several CUC projects.

Carter also wants an update on grant applications, grant payments and remaining funds related to approved or potential Engineering Environmental Management Company projects, and Stipulated Order No. 1 and 2 projects.

The judge also directed CUC to provide the court with the status of the Technical Manager for Oil fund and all projects associated with the TMO fund.

CUC was ordered to identify the funding available in the TMO fund and provide an accounting of those funds up to June 30, 2019.

CUC was directed to describe the TMO projects, including the project costs and the schedule for completion of the projects.

CUC and the CNMI government have until Aug. 8, to provide the required information.

CUC has been required to fund an annual budget for the TMO and associated oil spill prevention, preparedness and response operations.

This budget is separate from the power generation and distribution budgets and the EEMC budget and the Registry Funds.

The activities associated with this budget are restricted to oil spill prevention, preparedness, and response activities, including operations, maintenance, training, and waste management.

According to the court's prior TMO order, this budget shall be funded each year in an amount not less than $450,000 per year for five years.

CUC is not required to maintain more than $900,000 in the TMO annual budget.

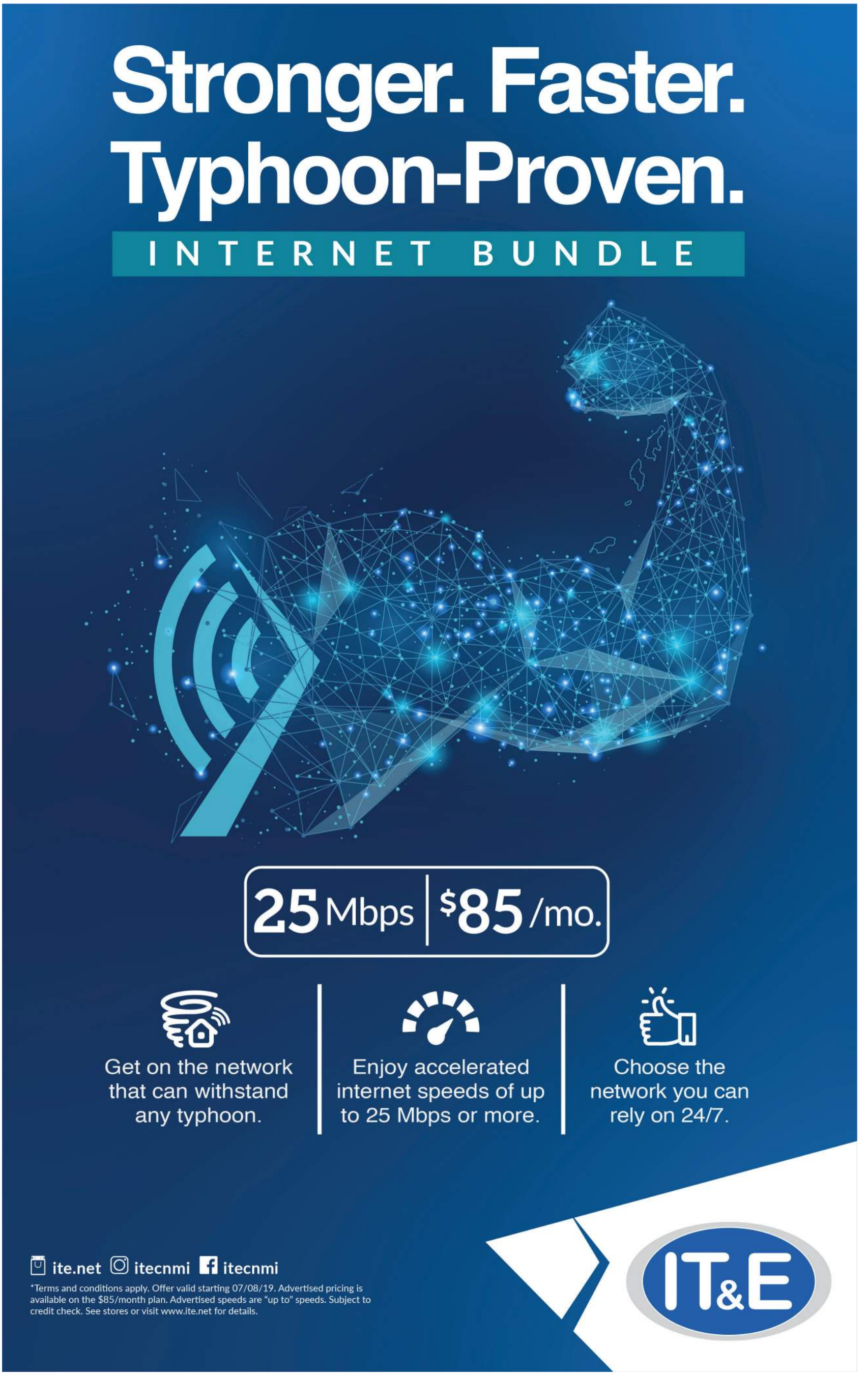
## Stipulated Order No. 1

Last January, Gilbane Federal, the federal court-appointed EEMC, which is tasked to oversee some of CUC's stalled projects, disclosed that it has now completed seven task orders and made over $2 million in savings for CUC.

The seven completed tasks were the facility drainage, Tank 103 inspection, Tank 103 materials, Rota containment, Rota facility drainage, Tank 103 repairs, and smart pigging.

Stipulated Order No. 1 focuses on drinking water and wastewater and the restructuring of CUC's organization.

Stipulated Order No. 2 refers to court-mandated CUC projects that focus on oil issues and also apply to oil spills and the remediation of the contaminated power plants. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***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IT&E

# SM to become 'Shine Marianas'

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

SM Store kind of disappeared from the radar last April after closing its store at Springs Plaza on Middle Road. But it never really went away; the new store is now located beside Drew's Bar and Grill on Beach Road. Together with the new location will come a new name: Shine Marianas.

SM, which has been in business since 1994, has always been good at renewing itself through the years. According to SM manager Mario Rodriguez, they were simply called SM for many years "but we will change it to something positive that will reflect the beauty of the CNMI. Soon, our store will be renamed 'Shine Marianas.' We will have this implemented in the coming months."

SM Store products caters to different demographics and prices remain reasonable.

BEA CABRERA

Bags, accessories, and beauty products are staple products at SM Store.

BEA CABRERA

SM Store is now located beside Drew's Bar & Grill on Beach Road.

BEA CABRERA

Home and office furniture are on the list of available items at SM Store.

BEA CABRERA

One of the primary reasons for the move to a new location is to avoid redundancy.

"For some time now, we had two SM Stores—one at Springs Plaza and one already here where we sold wholesale goods and items. Eventually, we decided to just concentrate on one store and move everything here," Rodriguez said.

The new location on Beach Road makes the store more accessible and has brought in better business, according to Rodriguez. "Sales have been better since we moved. We have more parking in the new location, which is important in every business. You may have customers but if they can't find parking, you lose them," he said.

He is happy to report that all their loyal customers have followed them to the new site. "When they found out [where we relocated], we got feedback that it is better that we are here on Beach Road because it is accessible," he said.

You can practically find anything you need at the store, from A to Z. "We have apparel for men, women, children and babies, shoes, accessories, toys, beauty products, etc. You name it and we have it," Rodriguez said.

Their ongoing promo allows you to buy three shirts for just $10, $12, or $18. They also have 25% off on children's shorts.

"We have updated our 'home and office' products and items, like furniture, some appliances, home décor, and the like," he added

Their products are imported from the U.S. mainland, Thailand, Malaysia, and the Philippines.

One customer said that she has been going to SM for many years now. "When they closed at Springs Plaza, I was kind of worried because I did not know where they transferred. But now, I am here in the new location, buying clothes for my daughter for the new school year," she said.

Rodirguez believes that SM's staying power is the variety of goods that they have and their services. "Service is everything to us. We value our customers so the convenience of finding everything they need in our store is our priority," he said.

Their "back to school' promo will start this month of August, soon after their new shipment arrives on Aug.20.

SM is open Monday to Sunday, from 8am to 8pm. For inquiries, call (670) 783-4376 and look them up on Facebook: SM Saipan.

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# Ex-Corrections chief says Manila injuries caused by his physicians

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ex-Corrections commissioner Robert Guerrero insists that whatever Reynaldo A. Manila's injuries are, they were actually caused by the malpractice of his treating professionals.

In Guerrero's response to Manila's lawsuit, he insists, through the Office of the Attorney General, that he did not violate any of Manila's rights.

Civil Division chief Christopher M. Timmons also pointed out that Guerrero has qualified immunity from suit.

Timmons said that Manila's claims are barred for failing to join indispensable parties.

At the same time, he said that Manila's claims are based on a notion that his eye surgery was delayed by not taking him to the Philippines for treatment.

Yet Timmons pointed out that retinal specialists are not present in the CNMI and that travel with a prisoner requires significant inter-governmental coordination and does not happen at the blink of an eye.

Timmons said Guerrero and his co-defendants' actions were reasonable, given the time necessary to address the international transportation of a patient prisoner.

Manglona

Timmons said Guerrero could not send Manila to the Philippines as the Philippine government does not allow CNMI officials to transport prisoners to or through that country.

"It was necessary to arrange treatment in Guam and… those arrangements were expeditiously made by others," he said.

Manila, an inmate at the DOC, is suing Guerrero and two other officials for going blind in his left eye.

Recently, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona denied a motion to dismiss Manila's lawsuit.

Manglona determined that, on the face of Manila's amended complaint, his claim against Guerrero and DOC official Jose K. Pangelinan is not barred by the statute of limitations.

Manglona said Guerrero and Pangelinan are free to re-raise their statute of limitations defense in a motion for summary judgment if they discover evidence to support it consistent with the law of the case as she announced in her order.

The judge also found that Manila's complaint alleges facts sufficient to state and 8th Amendment claim against DOC official Georgia M. Cabrera for deliberate indifference to serious medical needs.

Guerrero, Pangelinan, and Cabrera have been ordered to respond to the lawsuit.

Guerrero, who is currently the Department of Public Safety commissioner, was the DOC commissioner when Manila was diagnosed with retinal detachment in the left eye.

Manila sued Guerrero, Cabrera, and Pangelinan in their personal capacity for alleged violations of his 8th Amendment right to adequate medical care.

Cabrera used to serve as DOC commissioner, while Pangelinan served as acting DOC commissioner when Guerrero was transferred to DPS. Cabrera and Pangelinan are still DOC officials.

Manila has no lawyer.

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# Local leaders raise CNMI's concerns with congressional staff delegation

A delegation made up of congressional staffers met with CNMI leaders in a series of meetings throughout yesterday.

*Saipan Tribune* counted at least six members of the delegation and learned that they met with acting governor Arnold Palacios, members of the 21st CNMI Legislature, and representatives of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce until around 1pm.

In an interview with Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan), he noted that the general message he conveyed to the delegation was that the CNMI need its own unique legislation because of its distinctive situation compared to other states.

"…We are not similar to the U.S. [mainland] where we can simply cross state borders and they are fine. Here, we are so isolated, so I asked that, in whatever policies they make, to please consider and understand our situation," he said, adding that regular U.S. legislation will not have the same intended effect it would have for a state.

"We are geographically different from the U.S. and that was my story to them, to understand our challenges," he said, citing the higher than normal poverty level and unique uninsured rates in the CNMI.

Rep. Tina Sablan (Ind-Saipan) noted that the meeting was more of a listening session according to one of the delegation members.

"They said…they were here really to listen and to get a sense of what were the major issues that were on the mind of the members of the Legislature. A lot of what they heard was about workforce issues, disaster recovery, and…immigration," she said in an interview.

Sablan spoke to the delegation about a Government Accountability Office publication reporting on the federal government's and CNMI government's handling of disaster money in the Marianas.

According to the delegation, that report would be available sometime in the spring of 2020 or earlier.

Sablan noted she also touched on immigration reform in the CNMI.

"There was discussion on a bill which was recently signed into law…that afforded CNMI residency for a certain group of people with humanitarian parole status," she said, referring to Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. SAblan's (Ind-MP) H.R. 559, which granted 1,038 categorical parolees and employment authorization document holders a legal CNMI-only permanent resident status.

"I asked for a certain type of reform that will give residency to a larger group of people—contract worker people that were not included in that bill," Sablan added.

"There was recognition in the U.S. Congress that we need to move forward with national immigration reform and, when that happens, the CNMI will be included in that legislation," she added.

The delegation is set to leave the CNMI on Sunday. The remainder of their schedule in the CNMI is still unknown. ***(Erwin Encinares)***

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# Court: Non-native Guam residents can vote on status with US

**HAGATNA, Guam** (AP)— Non-native residents of Guam should have a say about the territory's future relationship with the United States, a U.S. appeals court ruled.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a 2017 ruling that said it's unconstitutional to limit an advisory vote to those who are considered native inhabitants of the island.

The U.S. territory's non-binding election would have given native Chamorro residents three choices: independence, statehood and free association with the United States.

The free association option would be similar to island states that allow the U.S. exclusive military access to their land and waters while their citizens have the right to live and work in the U.S.

The territory's leaders would then present the results of the election to the president, Congress and the United Nations.

Arnold Davis, a non-Chamorro resident sued in 2011 after his application to participate in the vote was denied.

Three judges from the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, who issued their ruling Monday, were at the University of Hawaii's law school in October to listen to arguments in the appeal.

The 2017 ruling concluded that even though Guam has a long history of colonization and its people have a right to determine their political status with the United States, it's unconstitutional to exclude voters simply because they "do not have the correct ancestry or bloodline."

The ruling cites a 2000 U.S. Supreme Court decision that allows non-Native Hawaiians to vote in elections for Office of Hawaiian Affairs trustees.

The vote in Guam would only be a "symbolic, but no less sacred, non-binding expression of a political opinion of a subset of Guam," Julian Aguon, an attorney representing the territory, argued last year.

About one-third of the U.S. territory's 160,000 people identify as Chamorro, the indigenous group that is believed to have migrated to Guam from Indonesia and the Philippines as many as 4,000 years ago.

The U.S. took control of Guam in 1898 after the Spanish-American War. The Navy ruled the island until Japan took control in 1941. The U.S. installed civilian leadership and granted citizenship to Guam residents in 1950.

Victoria-Lola Leon Guerrero, co-chairwoman of the Independence for Guam Task Force, told the Guam Pacific Daily News that the ruling is disappointing, but that efforts to decolonize will continue. The task force, created by Guam law, has a seat on the government's Commission on Decolonization.

Leon Guerrero said the U.S. justice system doesn't understand Guam's unique experience as a territory.

"The people of Guam and the government of Guam are committed to the need for our island to decolonize," she said. "There needs to be a way for those who were colonized to express their desire for Guam's future."

AP

In this Oct. 10, 2018 file photo, a panel of 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals judges in Honolulu listen to arguments about non-native residents of Guam having a say about the territory's future relationship with the United States.


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# Jason Momoa visits protesters blocking new Hawaii telescope

By AUDREY McAVOY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Actor Jason Momoa speaks with his uncle, Titus Kinimaka, while visiting elders and Native Hawaiian protesters blocking the construction of a giant telescope on Hawaii's tallest mountain, at Mauna Kea Access Road on Wednesday, July 31, 2019, in Mauna Kea, Hawaii. AP

**HONOLULU** (AP)—"Aquaman" star Jason Momoa on Wednesday visited Native Hawaiian protesters blocking the construction of a giant telescope on Hawaii's tallest mountain.

The Native Hawaiian Hollywood actor wore green leaf lei around his neck and the crown of his head as he attended a ceremony at the protest site.

Honolulu television stations livestreamed dancers in jeans and windbreakers performing hula in chilly weather.

Momoa stooped low to present an offering wrapped in green ti leaves. He said he was honored to be there, drawing cheers after saying, "We are not going anywhere."

Protesters have blocked the road to the summit for 17 days.

Some Native Hawaiians believe Mauna Kea's summit is sacred. The summit also has the best conditions for astronomy in the Northern Hemisphere.

Staff from existing telescopes on the summit meanwhile traveled up the mountain in seven vehicles to secure their facilities as two storms approached.

The observatories negotiated access through law enforcement, said Jessica Dempsey, the deputy director of the East Asian Observatory.

Some staff moved telescope domes away from the direction of prevailing winds. Others disabled systems so they won't get as damaged if there's a prolonged power outage.

The National Weather Service has forecast Hurricane Erick will pass south of Hawaii later this week. Meteorologists said Tropical Storm Flossie will likely approach the Big Island from the east early next week.

Astronomers haven't been able to view the skies with the existing telescopes for the past two weeks amid protests.

Dempsey said the observatories haven't been able to resume viewing because they still must notify law enforcement if they need to take vehicles up to the summit.

"And so at the moment, it remains that we cannot get all of our staff up, as well as our contractors and vendors, that we need to get up on a daily basis in order to return to operational state," she said.

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Mount Carmel School staff and faculty met U.S. astronaut Ricky Arnold, third from right, during the 2019 STEM Leadership Alliance Summit. Others in the photo, from left to right, are Bobby Baldazo, MCS acting vice principal; Luz Baldazo, science teacher; Evangeline Villar, middle school science teacher; Eleonor Alejo, middle school science teacher; Filmah Buenaflor, high school computer science and math teacher; and Zyron Castillo, elementary school teacher. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

# MCS faculty attend national STEM conference in Florida

To aid in developing practical, comprehensive, and engaging Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics curricula, Mount Carmel School faculty recently attended the 2019 STEM Leadership Alliance Summit in Orlando, Florida.

The MCS delegation included Bobby Baldazo, MCS acting vice principal; Luz Baldazo, science teacher; Filmah Buenaflor, high school computer science and math teacher; Zyron Castillo, elementary school teacher; Evangeline Villar, middle school science teacher; and Eleonor Alejo, middle school science teacher.

The 2019 summit was intended to bring together educators from different STEM fields and allow them to learn and speak directly to experts of STEM integration.

The summit was also meant to teach participants how to introduce integrated STEM curricula into their school communities.

Integrated STEM is a teaching methodology where elements of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics are combined to expand the learning opportunities in one subject. This method was also created to help students draw connections between their lessons and real-world problems.

One of Buenaflor's key takeaways from this summit to make integrated STEM possible was that STEM teachers should work with school administrators to work on a revised curriculum.

Baldazo said that attending the summit was necessary because "we were informed about how to better prepare our students who have shared an interest in STEM-related career paths."

MCS principal Barbara Merfalen looks forward to the school's STEM curriculum being enhanced by the summit's participants. "Now that several of our teachers have been given the tools to introduce an integrated STEM curriculum, we look forward to the actual implementation of their suggestions and recommendations."

"It is important to us at the school that our teachers continue to adapt to the evolving methods of instruction and can expand in their capacity as professionals and leaders in education," she added.

At the summit, participants were taught how to incorporate integrated STEM into K-12 curricula. Educators were also given information on how to explore opportunities for in-school and out of school collaboration. Other outcomes included identifying best practices and lessons learned in the development and effectiveness of STEM ecosystems. One of the overall goals of an integrated STEM curriculum is to create a pipeline of students to professionals in STEM-related fields.

The STEM Leadership Alliance is a collaboration of five major STEM organizations: The National Science Teachers Association, National Council of Teachers of Math, International Society for Technology in Education, International Technology and Engineering Educators Association, and American Society for Engineering Education. Individually, these leading STEM organizations advance the work of educators and students across the country. As a collective, they help evaluate current methods of teaching STEM subjects and work to improve those methods for more comprehensive learning strategies.

To learn more about enrolling at MCS for the upcoming 2019-2020 school year, call 234-6184 or visit www.mountcarmelsaipan.com. ***(PR)***

## Scheduled water service outage for Monday

There will be a scheduled water service interruption on Middle Road and Gualo Rai on Monday, Aug. 5, from 8am to 5pm.

This is intended to allow AIC Marianas, Inc. to install a new waterline in MacArthur Drive, Garapan as part of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s Gualo Rai Waterline Replacement Project. Customers in the affected areas should expect restoration of water service soon after.

CUC appreciates the public's understanding and patience throughout this project and will continue to work diligently to minimize any inconvenience to its customers. ***(CUC)***

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# Int'l Festival of Cultures on Sept. 20-21

The 5th Annual International Festival of Cultures will be held on Sept. 20-21, 2019, in celebration of the cultural diversity of the Marianas, with special emphasis on the indigenous cultures of Micronesia.

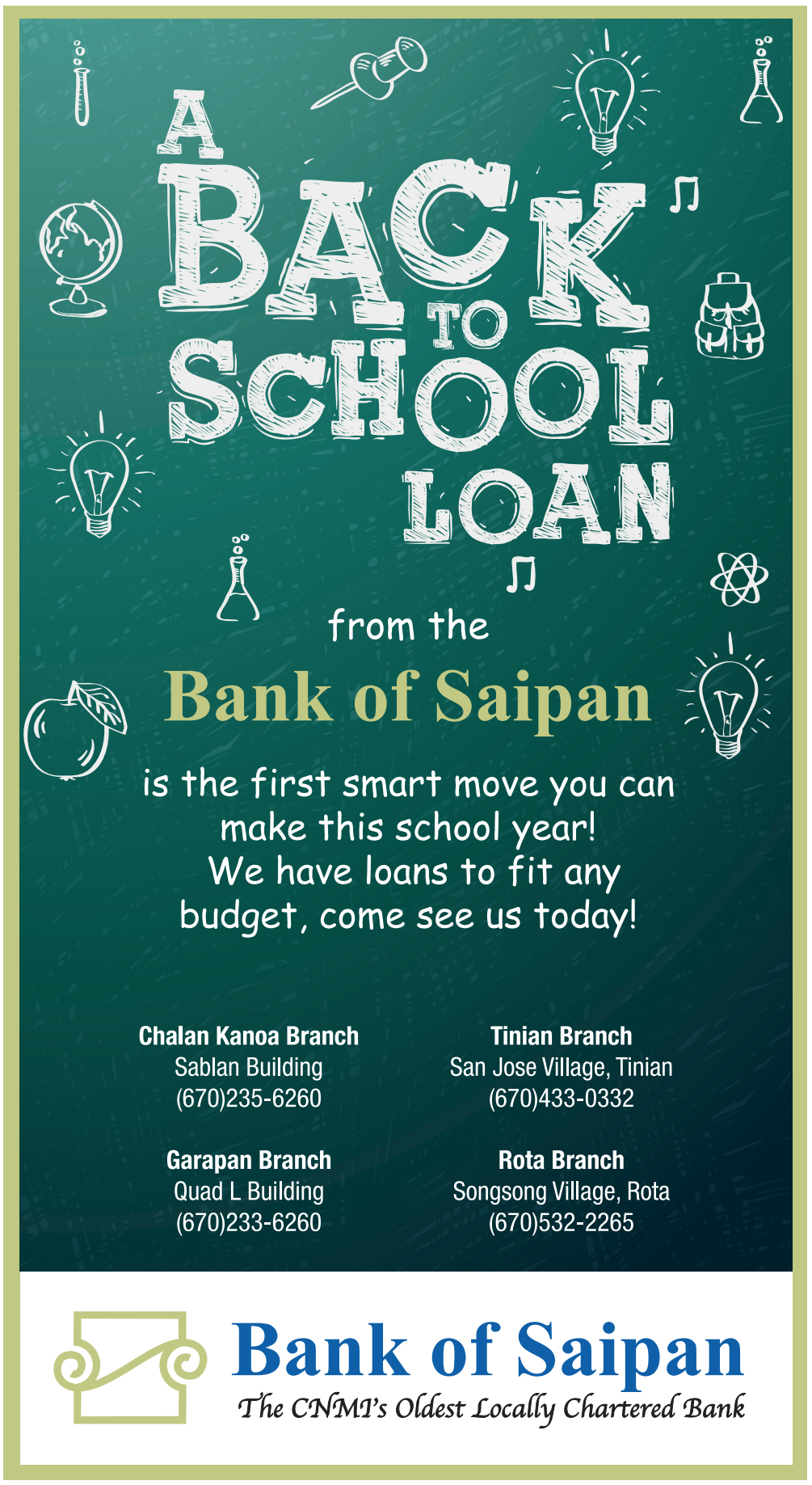
The festival returns to Paseo de Marianas in the main tourist district on Saipan. A soft opening will be held on Sept. 20, from 5pm to 10pm with an ethnic parade, food sales, and demonstration and sales of arts and crafts.

On Sept. 21, from 5pm to 10pm, the festival will also feature live ethnic performances on-stage.

"In partnership with our various ethnic communities in the Marianas, we are looking forward to another great international Festival of Cultures in September," said Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Priscilla Iakopo. "The weekend of Sept. 20-21 is not only the mid-autumn festival travel holiday in China but also a weekend when summer charter flights will be arriving from Japan, and we are looking forward to sharing our multicultural celebration with all our visitors."

MVA
This file photo shows a dance group portraying a Chamorro dance at the Annual International Festival of Cultures in the Marianas on Sept. 13, 2014.

The MVA invites interested cultural groups to participate in the upcoming festival meeting scheduled forAug.9, 2019, at 2pm at the MVA conference room. Participation forms are available at the MVA office in San Jose, Saipan, or interested participants may contact MVA community projects coordinator Jack Aranda at jaranda@mymarianas.com or (670) 664-3219 for more information. ***(MVA)***

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# Minority bloc to review proposed 'resort fee'

The minority bloc in the House of Representatives is preparing to meet to discuss their position on a recently introduced resort fee, which, if passed, would make the CNMI impose the highest hotel or lodging tax in all of the United States.

Rep. Tina Sablan (Ind-Saipan) told *Saipan Tribune* Wednesday that the minority bloc of the House, which consists of minority leader Rep. Ed Propst (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Sheila Babauta (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Joseph Arriola Flores (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Richard Lizama (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Donald Manglona (Ind-Tinian), and Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Ind-Saipan), would be convening to discuss their position on Rep. Janet Maratita's (R-Saipan) House Bill 21-67, which seeks to impose a 5% resort fee in addition to the 15% hotel occupancy tax and 5% Business Gross Revenue Tax, or BGRT, on hotels in the CNMI.

Propst told *Saipan Tribune* that, if passed, the CNMI would exceed even Guam and Hawaii in taxing hotel or lodging establishments.

"If we add on another 5% hotel tax to the current 15%, we will have the highest hotel or lodging tax in the entire nation and all her territories," he said, adding that Guam only imposes 11% tax on lodging establishments and Hawaii 10.25%.

"How do we even match up to these premiere destinations right now? I am deeply disappointed that we are looking at taxing hotels at 20% but won't even consider a 5% gaming tax for the casino industry on Saipan," he said. "It is important to remind the people of the Commonwealth that we are the only place in the world that has zero gross gaming revenue taxes."

The casino pays the regular 5% BGRT tax, like any other business establishment.

Sablan, commenting on H.B. 21-67, told *Saipan Tribune* that she wishes to see evidence of increased enforcement of the hotel occupancy tax on bed and breakfast establishments.

"I'd also like us to move forward with legislation to finally impose a gaming tax. …Right now, there is no gaming tax in effect at all, which makes no sense whatsoever, given the social, economic, and infrastructure impacts of that industry on our community. The revenues generated from that tax could be applied to supporting our critical infrastructure and public services," she said.

H.B. 21-67 is currently in the House Ways and Means Committee, chaired by Rep. Ivan A. Blanco (R-Saipan). As of Tuesday, Blanco said the bill is still under review and his office is soliciting comments from the Public School System, Northern Marianas College, Department of Finance, Hotel Association of the NMI, the Marianas Visitors Authority, and the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

The 5% resort tax, according to the bill, will be split among five agencies. ***(Erwin Encinares)***

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# Opinion

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Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

**Jayvee L. Vallejera** EDITOR
editor@saipantribune.com

**Mark Rabago** ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

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## EDITORIAL

# The mass shooting on Sunday night that you haven't heard about

Sunday night, many people across the nation were glued to the television or their phones, waiting for updates from the mass shooting at the Gilroy Garlic Festival, a family-friendly food festival in Northern California. The horror started at 5:40 p.m. local time when a shooter with an assault-style rifle opened fire. At least three people were killed, including a 6-year-old. An additional 12 were injured. The tragedy drew sympathy from public figures including the president of the United States.

Twenty minutes before the shooting in Gilroy started, a group of 20-year-olds were preparing to film a music video in the Elmwood neighborhood of Southwest Philadelphia. A man opened fire, killing a 21-year-old on the scene and injuring five more. It was the second mass shooting within a few blocks in Elmwood in six weeks. On Father's Day, six people—including three teenagers—were shot at a graduation party in a nearby playground.

Unlike the Gilroy shooting, there was zero national attention on Philadelphia's. The president didn't share his sympathy. CNN didn't interrupt its scheduling. Elmwood wasn't trending on Twitter.

In a tweet on Monday morning, state Attorney General Josh Shapiro called the shooting in Elmwood "everyday" gun violence and the shooting in Gilroy a "mass shooting." The implication is that there is something normal or routine in 20-year-olds being shot while filming a music video—while a mass shooting is a completely unpredictable event that targets the truly innocent.

Both the shooting in Elmwood and the shooting in Gilroy are "mass shootings" and neither should be thought of as an "everyday" occurrence.

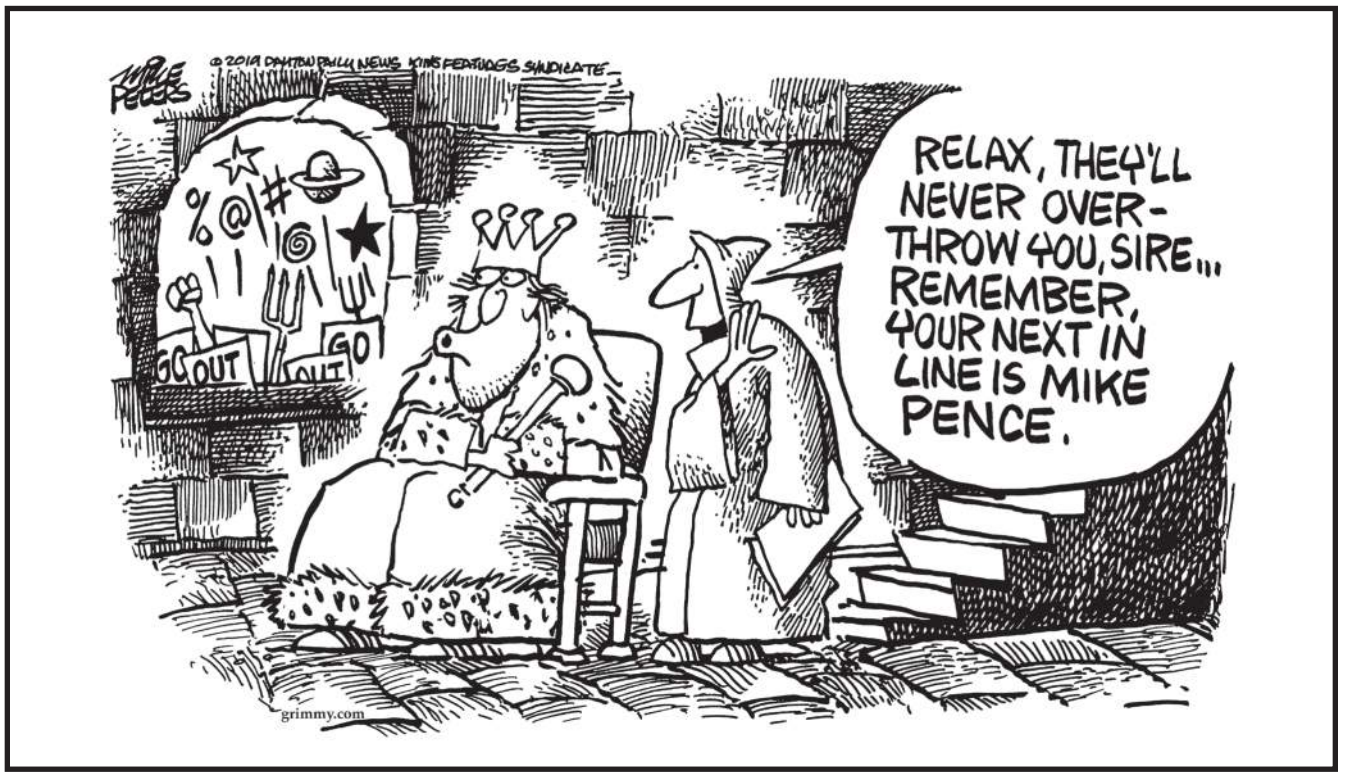
What we've come to view as the "classic" mass shooting—Sandy Hook, Columbine, the Batman screening, Las Vegas—impacts mainly white people. In contrast, the victims of urban violence are predominantly black men. While the former is a tragedy that deserves national attention, the latter has been relegated to a consequence of poverty that is prevalent in the black and brown communities of cities like Philadelphia.

This dichotomy between mass shooting and urban violence is also revealed in President Donald Trump's sympathetic response to the shooting in Gilroy while, on the same weekend, using urban violence in Baltimore as a tool against a political opponent.

While the killing of black and brown men in cities is common—eight out of 10 homicide victims in Philadelphia in 2017 were nonwhite—accountability for these deaths is rare. Six of every 10 homicides investigated in Philadelphia in 2018 went unsolved.

The state preempts the city from passing its own gun laws, but passes few of its own. That's why City Council President Darrell L. Clarke's proposal to ban firearms in city parks and recreation centers is unlikely to get traction in Harrisburg,

*See SHOOTING on Page 16*


© 2019 DAYTON DAILY NEWS, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE
%@#
GO OUT
OUT
GO
RELAX, THEY'LL NEVER OVER-THROW YOU, SIRE... REMEMBER, YOUR NEXT IN LINE IS MIKE PENCE.
grimmy.com

# The Good, the Bad (we'll save Ugly for later)

Below are more excerpts from Mike Campbell and Marie Castro's book, *Marie Castro: My Life and Amelia Earhart's Saipan Legacy*. This time we get to see what the U.S. military big brass had to say about Amelia Earhart being on Saipan. Looks like Ballard and Nat Geo are dunking in the wrong part of the pool.

### The American GI witnesses: Part 2

Amelia Earhart is shown standing under nose of her Lockheed Model 10-E Electra plane. PUBLIC DOMAIN

In addition to the many soldiers, Marine, and Navy men who saw or knew of the presence and destruction of Amelia Earhart and her Lockheed Electra on Saipan, three U.S. flag officers later shared their knowledge of the truth with Fred Goerner, acting against policy prohibiting the release of top-secret information, likely in order to encourage the long-suffering Goerner in his quest for the truth.

In late March 1965, a week before his meeting with Gen. Wallace M. Greene Jr. at the U.S. Marine Corps headquarters in Arlington, Virginia, former fleet admiral Chester W. Nimitz called Goerner in San Francisco. "Now that you're going to Washington, Fred, I want to tell you Earhart and her navigator did go down in the Marshalls and were picked up by the Japanese," Goerner said Nimitz told him.

The admiral's revelation appeared to be a monumental breakthrough for the determined newsman, and is known to many observers of the Earhart matter. **"**After five years of effort, the former commander [of the] U.S. Naval Forces in the Pacific was telling me it had not been wasted,**"** Goerner wrote.

In November 1966, several months after *The Search for Amelia Earhart* was released, retired general Graves B. Erskine, who, as a Marine brigadier general, was the deputy commander of the V Amphibious Corps during the Saipan invasion, accepted Goerner's invitation to visit the radio studios of KCBS in San Francisco for an interview. While waiting to go on the air with Goerner, Erskine told Jules Dundes, CBS West Coast vice president, and Dave McElhatton, a KCBS newsman, "It was established that Earhart was on Saipan. You'll have to dig the rest out for yourselves."

General Alexander A. Vandegrift, the eighteenth commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps, privately admitted the truth to Goerner in a handwritten, August 1971 letter.

"General Tommy Watson, who commanded the 2nd Marine Division during the assault on Saipan and stayed on that island after the fall of Okinawa, on one of my seven visits of inspection of his division told me that it had been substantiated that

*See THE GOOD on Page 16*

## SOUR GRAPES

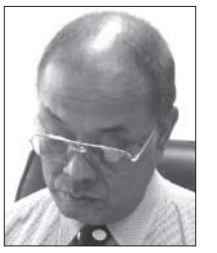
**By BRUCE A. BATEMAN**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Bruce A. Bateman resides on Saipan with a wife, a son, and an unknown number of boonie dogs. He has owned and operated a number of unusual businesses and most recently worked as the marketing manager for MVA. Bruce likes to read, travel, tinker with bicycles, hike, swim, and play a bit of golf. He is opinionated and writes when the moon is full and the mood strikes.*

Public Domain image of Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz. PUBLIC DOMAIN

# The $15-million loan

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune



*John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the* Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

The NMI has taken out a $15-million loan from the Marianas Public Land Trust for storm-related recovery costs. Understood the necessity. Rebuilding has begun!

Be that as it may, there are questions about the review process. For instance, did we employ due diligence to check whether in fact we have sufficient funds to pay for a new loan atop current obligations?

Is your finding satisfactory, including NMI liquidity, in the event something doesn't pan out as planned?

Or am I boasting my juvenile understanding of finance and accounting therefore, inconsistent and irrelevant? But it's hard reconciling economic contraction against a decision to saddle the NMI with another huge loan. Is it a GOP innovation, piling more debts on an already financially challenged government? Why the ignorance in arrogance?

### Debts

Deficit spending is bad all around and the obvious query is: what happens next fiscal year when we fall short of revenues once more? Where else do we borrow and by how much? It requires some thoughtful planning, right?

It's clear MPLT funds are supposed to be invested. Is a loan for the NMI an "investment?" Where does pertinent constitutional law say MPLT funds could be used for loan purposes? Or was this the concoction of politicians who found another cookie jar to raid? Why the lack of prudence in spending?

### Investments?

Understood the unplanned expenses from superstorms slammed deeper into debt territory by the exit of Nippon investments. It contributed to the huge economic contraction we never saw coming nor have we any idea of its negative impact at this point in time. But its effects have started to haunt us today.

It's a major contraction; does it matter? Or are Da Boysis pleasantly boasting negligence and disorientation once more?

It's a mind-numbing issue that requires immediate review of the strength of current revenue contraction versus obligations. It's called planning! It's a matter of taking an ocular review of what's in the treasury versus every obligation in the books.

The exit of Nippon investments leaves behind far more serious economic setback than meets nimble eyes. Have you collectively addressed the issue to see its negative economic implications or "not yet, already?" Whatever happened to your "depth of vision" and conviction?

### Downsize

We've heard ostentatious spouts about the need to cut back spending. I approached a legislator to asked for the truth behind the pronouncement. He smiled, giggling, "We want to sound good".

What he didn't say was, "We want to do the same"—ignore it altogether and wait for the ink to dry off the pages of the papers. A perfect recipe to ignore fiduciary duty! It has turned into a self-destructive political culture!

We instantly trash conviction on matters that really require resolve. The new culture of complicity is a more convenient excuse over keeping resolve responsibly.

### Investments

The salvation to fiscal stagnancy is the resurgence of investments from private industries here. In this regard, it's good to know of plans by an investor for a thousand-room hotel. It means a bit more money and jobs for the island. But is there any other investor following behind?

Behind the stagnancy is the greater query: whatever happened to others who joined the NMI in the mid-sixties with new investments? Have they factually taken their investments and placed them on airplanes on the way home permanently? This is the issue the elected elite must come to terms with to ensure the improvement of the quality of life here.

### Race-based

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has ruled as unconstitutional the Guam law limiting voting on the status question to the indigenous people.

Further north is land alienation law that falls in the same category. At issue meriting legal protection is a citizen's rights. Landownership is a citizen's right!

About the only time the NMI's land alienation could stand on its own is when we're a sovereign country. Under the Stars and Stripes Forever, we are a subserviency of our national govern-

*See LOAN on Page 16*

# Food for Thought: Like watermelon for angels

LITERARY NOOK
By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Joey "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired teacher and has been named a poet laureate of Tinian. He has taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.*

"When one has tasted watermelon, he knows what the angels eat."

—Mark Twain, American author of *Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, and *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (1835 - 1910)

### What Angels Eat is Red Juicy and Sweet

Well, there is soft delicious Angel Food sponge cake
I've often wondered if any heavenly creatures eat it
this confectionary delicacy is somewhat tricky to bake
I also wonder whether heaven's angels actually need it.

There is chocolate Devil's Food cake a delightful treat
a deep dark cocoa dessert pastry with a delicious smell
with chocolate frosting chocolate ice cream a must repeat
tempting fallen angels in a semi-sweet dark chocolate hell.

Finally, a heavenly fruit perfect for every earthly dwelling
and all the devilish boys and angelic girls spit out its seeds
watermelon fields, farmer's markets, grocery stores selling
a medium size watermelon will fit a small family's needs.

Watermelon is *sandia* in Spanish, *chandia* in Chamorro
angels and devils want it yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

*National Watermelon Day is Saturday, Aug. 3, 2019. Here is a poem I wrote several years ago and translations of it into various languages spoken here in the CNMI and elsewhere around the world. Readers may enjoy discerning the variety, difference, and similarities among the languages. Vive la Difference! Please enjoy some watermelon.*

**When Ripe Watermelon**

When ripe watermelon bursts its rind
and juicy red flesh can be seen
all the fruits of summer come to mind
and watermelon is the queen
the crowning glory of every picnic
just what every BBQ needs
thump for ripeness to get the right pick
have fun spitting out all the seeds.

**Cuando La Sandia Madura** (Spanish)

Cuando la sandía madura revienta su cáscara
y jugosa carne roja se puede ver
todos los frutos del verano vienen a la mente
y la sandía es la reina
la gloria suprema de cada picnic
justo lo que necesita cada barbacoa
golpe de madurež para obtener la elección correcta
diviérte escupiendo todos las semillas.

*Spanish translation by Carol Fernandez who lives in Washington, D.C.*

**An Masa I Chandia** (Chamorro)

Anai pakpak i lassas
ya sina un lié i chugó yan sensin agagá
ayu na un hasso todo i man mange na fruta siha
lao i chandia i raraina
este i mas ma guaiya espesiatmente para i famagúon
kada man manu nu man nisisita i chandia
ma dakut i chandia ni para u tungu na masa
ya un luga i pipitasnaū.

*Chamorro translation by Carmen C., a resident of Tinian.*

**Kapag Hinog Ang Pakwan** (Tagalog)

Kapag sumabog na ang balat ng hinog na pakwan
At kita na ang pula at makatas nitong laman
Naaalala lahat ang mga prutas tuwing tag-init
At ang pakwan ang syang reyna.
Ang namamayagpag sa bawat piknik,
Nararapat sa bawat barbekyu,
Katukin ang balat para malaman kung hinog na
Masayang idura ang lahat ng mga buto.

*Translated by J. Vallejera. Translator's note: I don't think there is a literal translation of the word "picnic" or "barbecue" in Tagalog so, like the Japanese, Filipinos tend to transliterate many English terms.*

**Kun Hinog It Pakwan** (Waray)

Kun nagbuto na it anit hit pakwan
Ngan nakikit-an na it maduga ngan pula nga unod
Nanunumduman it tanan nga prutas hit tagsirak
Ngan it pakwan it rayna.
Asya it sikat ha kada pagtarampo.
Asya it kinahanglan kada may barbekyu
Tuktuki agud mabaru-an kun hinog nga asya an napili
Pagrisyo pagtupra hit mga liso.

*The translator, J. Vallejera, is a native speaker of Waray, the fifth most spoken language in the Philippines. Translator's note: You can use the term* pagka-urusa *or* pagtarampo *which means "get-together" or "unity."*

**Lupan Sania A Mau** (Mortlockese)

Lupan sania a mau, kilen a sawala
massawan lon en mi par me pukilen
a pwa weuu usun sa pwal anshaanei fansoun le rek
sania I finesamolun finesamolun fan soun
appwesh pwe e kai no lon
fansoun appwesh le rekk
fansoun oshosh nge mattiuou
pukkilen me le awash

*Mortlockese translation by Sapuro Rayphand who lives on Saipan. He was born on Lukono (Likinioch) atoll in the State of Chuuk, Federated States of Micronesia.*

**Wenn Reife Wassermelone** (German)

Wenn reife Wassermelone ihre Rinde sprengt
Saftiges rotes Fleisch dabei zeigend
Kommen alle Früchte des Sommers in den Sinn
Unter ihnen ist Wassermelone Königin
Die krönende Herrlichkeit eines jeden Picknicks
Die notwendige Bedingung Das von Grillfesten
Schlage die Hülle für Reifheit und richtige Wahl
Genieße es, die Samen zu spucken.

**Quand Pastèque Mûre** (French)

Quand pastèque mûre fait éclater sa croûte
et pulpe fondante et rouge se montre
tous fruits d'été vont à l'esprit
dont pastèque est la reine
la gloire couronnant de chaque pique-nique
ce qu'il faut pour tous barbecue
frappe pour savoir s'elle soit mûre et bonne
t'amuse en crachant ses graines.

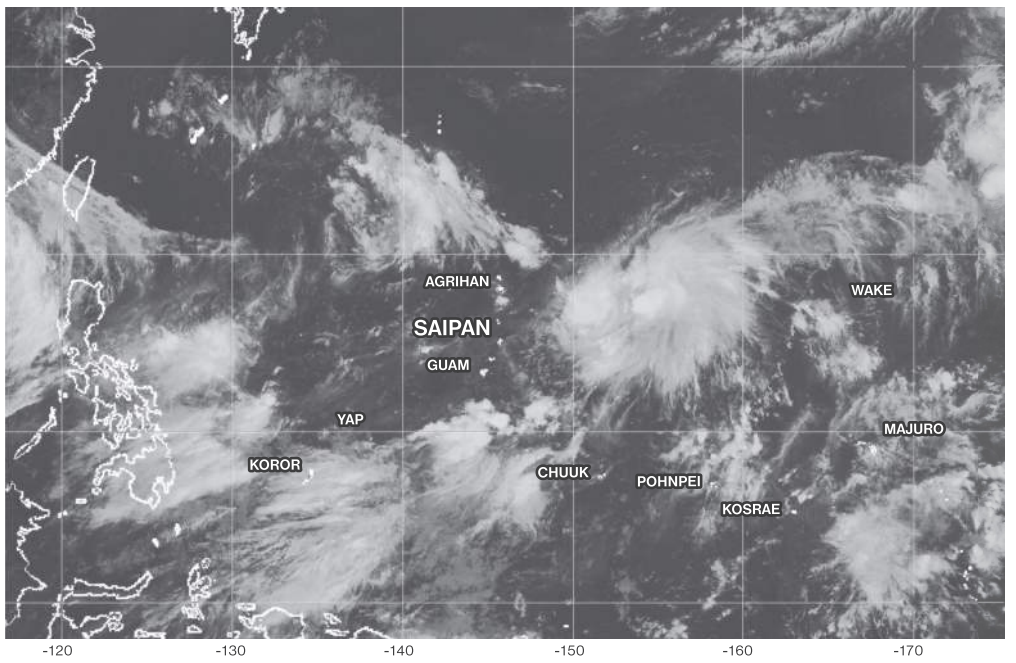
*German and French translations by Dr. Colin G. King, my first adopted son, who lived here on Tinian during middle school, now a philosophy professor in Basel, Switzerland.*

# The Weather

## 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

| TODAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms, except scattered afternoon showers at Guam. | Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. | Cloudy. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. | Cloudy. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. |
| 89° 77° | 88° 77° | 88° 77° | 88° 77° | 88° 77° |

## YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE




**PICTURE TIME: 7:33 AM, THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 2019**
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Isolated showers and light to gentle southwest winds are seen across the Marianas. The broad monsoon trough remains perched well north of Saipan with weak circulations found to the distant northeast near 21N153E and over the Philippine Sea near 15N131E.

*Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/*

| MICRONESIA | | ▲ ▼ °F |
|---|---|---|
| Guam and Rota | Thunderstorm | 87° / 79° |
| Palau | Thunderstorm | 84° / 79° |
| Yap | Thunderstorm | 85° / 80° |
| Chuuk | Thunderstorm | 86° / 80° |
| Pohnpei | Thunderstorm | 87° / 77° |
| Kosrae | Thunderstorm | 87° / 77° |
| Majuro | Thunderstorm | 87° / 80° |

| AROUND THE GLOBE | | ▲ ▼ °F |
|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Showers | 57° / 52° |
| Beijing | Thunderstorm | 86° / 73° |
| Hong Kong | Thunderstorm | 86° / 81° |
| Honolulu | Thunderstorm | 87° / 79° |
| London | Partly Cloudy | 77° / 61° |
| Los Angeles | Sunny | 85° / 67° |
| Manila | Thunderstorm | 84° / 77° |
| Melbourne | Mostly Cloudy | 57° / 45° |
| Miami | Thunderstorm | 85° / 79° |
| New York | Partly Cloudy | 87° / 72° |
| Osaka | Thunderstorm | 91° / 79° |
| Paris | Partly Cloudy | 81° / 59° |
| Busan | Partly Cloudy | 86° / 77° |
| Rome | Partly Cloudy | 91° / 70° |
| Salem | Thunderstorm | 90° / 70° |
| San Francisco | Partly Cloudy | 67° / 56° |
| Seoul | Partly Cloudy | 93° / 75° |
| Tokyo | Partly Cloudy | 91° / 77° |
| Washington, DC | Thunderstorm | 85° / 71° |

**NMI CRIME STOPPERS**
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

| TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY | | FEET |
|---|---|---|
| 2:22 AM | LOW TIDE | 1.30 |
| 7:26 AM | HIGH TIDE | 2.25 |
| 2:45 PM | LOW TIDE | -0.33 |
| 9:36 PM | HIGH TIDE | 2.18 |

| DAY | SUNRISE | SUNSET |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 5:59 AM | 6:46 PM |
| Saturday | 5:59 AM | 6:46 PM |
| Sunday | 6:00 AM | 6:46 PM |
| Monday | 6:00 AM | 6:45 PM |
| Tuesday | 6:00 AM | 6:45 PM |

| DAY | MOONRISE | MOONSET | MOONRISE |
|---|---|---|---|
| Today | 6:49 AM | 7:55 PM | - |
| Saturday | 7:52 AM | 8:46 PM | - |
| Sunday | 8:54 AM | 9:34 PM | - |
| Monday | 9:53 AM | 10:19 PM | - |
| Tuesday | 10:51 AM | 11:04 PM | - |

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OPINION

## HOUSE

*From Page 14*

Miss Earhart met her death on Saipan," the handwritten letter states.

"That is the total knowledge that I have of this incident. In writing to you, I did not realize that you wanted to quote my remarks about Miss Earhart and I would rather that you would not."

Vandegrift's claimed source for his information, former lieutenant general Thomas E. Watson, died in 1966—very possibly the reason Vandegrift shared the truth with Goerner in that way. Legally speaking, Vandegrift's letter is hearsay, and he probably assumed it would afford him a level of protection against any ramifications he might face for breaking his silence with Goerner.

In assessing Vandegrift's credibility, a sterling career culminating in his selection as the Marine Corps' first four-star general is impressive enough. But Vandegrift also received the Medal of Honor and the Navy Cross for his actions at Guadalcanal, Tulagi, and Gavutu in the Solomon Islands in 1942. In those days, receiving his country's highest award for valor conferred upon its bearer the gravest moral responsibilities, and it's safe to presume that the word of a Medal of Honor awardee, especially a former commander of the world's greatest fighting force, was as good as gold. Moreover, Vandegrift had nothing tangible to gain from telling Goerner that Earhart had died on Saipan, and had no obvious reason to do so.

### Pagan pinchers

The U.S. Navy/U.S. Marines were outed recently by an Open Government Act request that found a secret document. What a surprise. It was found that they still lust after Pagan Island and the northern half of Tinian even though they have denied it publically. Do they want to improve the economy by opening a Navy base? No, they want full-scale live fire training facilities so U.S. Marines and the military of other countries can blow the crap out of both islands, likely making them uninhabitable as they have already done with Farallon de Medinilla. Bombs, tanks, strafing, cannons, live fire on a massive scale.

Their claim is that Pagan and Tinian are the "only" options they have. Hogwash. Guam is more than twice the size of all 14 islands of the CNMI combined and much of it is undeveloped. Needless to say, there is some pushback from Guamites about blowing up *their* island so what the Department of Defense wants to do is move the troops and all the money to Guam and send the PCB's and the depleted uranium ammunition and the destroyed reefs and the toxic wasteland to us here the CNMI. Thanks but no thanks. If you want an island to blow up, try Cocos Island. Think of the money you'll save on transportation.

The previously secret document reveals they want to lease Pagan, the whole island. Since they will undoubtedly ruin it for all time and since they have a *big gun* to use in getting their way, I suggest that we lease it to them at $1.2 billion per year ($1,200,000,000). A billion dollars go to the NMD land trust and $200 million goes to supplement the CNMI central government's operating expenses as an administrative fee.

Remember, once they destroy Pagan, there is no getting it back. What is a pristine tropical black beach island worth over the lifetime of the Northern Marianas? Probably more than even a billion a year will provide. Don't take a penny less. It's a *tiny* fraction of DOD's massive budget and it will forever transform the CNMI into a self-sustaining, moderately rich nation as small political entities go. "A billion two or go blow yourself up."

*"Intelligence and war are games, perhaps the only meaningful games left. If any player becomes too proficient, the game is threatened with termination."*

—William S. Burroughs

*"War is where the young and stupid are tricked by the old and bitter into killing each other."*

—Niko Bellic

Gen. Alexander A. Vandegrift, 18th commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps, told Fred Goerner, "Miss Earhart met her death on Saipan."
PUBLIC DOMAIN

## LOAN

*From Page 15*

ment—U.S. of A! Under the system it's the principle of a citizen's right to own property regardless of ethnicity.

### Kudos

Recent news accounts of policymakers in Puerto Rico and Baltimore assert that politicians from these jurisdictions are corrupt and corrosive. Politicians have simply abandoned fiduciary duty, leaving millions of people in abject poverty. Interesting phenomenon how they disappear when duty warrants their taking front and center to alleviate the miseries of those stuck in abject poverty. Humiliating!

## SHOOTING

*From Page 14*

where lawmakers are both unwilling to enact gun control or to allow cities to enact their own.

Just like one shouldn't be afraid to be shot at a food festival, black and brown people in Philadelphia shouldn't be afraid to leave their homes. It's time to call your legislators and remind them of the rights stolen with every homicide: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

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# Business

# Kids & Joy: A refuge for the creative

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The CNMI's "little artists" now have a place to call home in the heart of Garapan.

Kids & Joy was created last February to, in the words of its president, Sungwook Hwang, cater to and hone children's creativity.

"We opened our business because we felt that there was a shortage of cultural facilities for children [on] Saipan. We would like to make a space where little artists can express themselves with creativity and fun," he said.

Creative youth can play with several art materials such as slime, canvas drawing, plaster fragrance toys, and etc.

After making their artwork, children can then take their work home to show to their parents and other family members.

Currently, Kids & Joy has been operating summer vacation programs. It's also been conducting a special fun class dubbed "Glow in the Dark Night" every Friday evening from 6:30pm to 7:30pm.

Hwang also disclosed that the company is coming up with ideas on how to do voluntary work for children on Saipan.

When asked how Kids & Joy is weathering the ongoing economic downturn and government austerity, Hwang said the company fully understands that facilities like theirs isn't really a priority in the current economy. "Our business is affected by the local economic status.

"However, we believe this business is necessary for the local community to strengthen kids' development. So, we hope this business will succeed and grow," Hwang said.

MARK RABAGO
Kids & Joy is a place where creative youth can play by using various art materials such as slime, canvas drawing, plaster fragrance toys, and etc.

He reiterated that Kids & Joy was created to develop the full potential of creative youth on island. "The most fulfilling part of our business is seeing the creativity of children grow as they create their masterpiece. Due to Saipan being a small place, it is rare to see kid-based facilities. The goal of our business is to give children the chance and opportunity to experience something new."

A participant admires his creation at Kids & Joy. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Kids & Joy is located across the D'Elegance Restaurant in Garapan. On weekdays, it is open from Wednesday to Friday, 3pm-8pm. On weekends, Kids & Joy is open from 1pm-8pm.

For inquiries, call Kids & Joy at (670) 233-8185. Customers can also inquire anytime via Facebook or Instagram ID: @kidsnjoysaipan.

**Rates:**
- Regular hours: $10/hour (including material)
- Additional fee:
  - $3 additional 30 minutes
  - $5 for additional materials
- Glow in the Dark Night (Friday 6:30pm, reservation only): $15

## US to set up plan that allows prescription meds from Canada

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—The Trump administration said Wednesday it will create a way for Americans to legally and safely import lower-cost prescription drugs from Canada for the first time, reversing years of refusals by health authorities amid a public outcry over high prices for life-sustaining medications.

The move is a step toward fulfilling a 2016 campaign promise by President Donald Trump. It weakens an import ban that has stood as a symbol of the political clout of the pharmaceutical industry.

But it's unclear how soon consumers will see benefits, as the plan has to go through time-consuming regulatory approval and later could face court challenges from drugmakers. And there's no telling how Canada will react to becoming the drugstore for its much bigger neighbor, with potential consequences for policymakers and consumers there.

The U.S. drug industry is facing a crescendo of consumer complaints over prices, as well as legislation from both parties in Congress to rein in costs, not to mention proposals from the Democratic presidential contenders. Ahead of the 2020 election, Trump is feeling pressure to deliver on years of harsh rhetoric about pharmaceutical industry prices.

Making the announcement, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar said the administration recognizes that prescription drug manufacturing and distribution is now international.

"The landscape and the opportunities for safe linkage between drug supply chains has changed," Azar said. "That is part of why, for the first time in HHS's history, we are open to importation. We want to see proposals from states, distributors, and pharmacies that can help accomplish our shared goal of safe prescription drugs at lower prices."

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**
**Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
**RFP19-CHCC/CGC-SYSTEMS OF CARE-019**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: AUGUST 09, 2019 TIME: 5:00 PM**

**"EVALUATION SERVICES"**

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE [WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP]. ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ SUBROTO BANERJI
ACTING CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

**DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT**
P. O. Box 501304, Saipan MP 96950, Gualo Rai Center, Saipan
TEL. NO. 664-8300 • FAX NO. 664-8315
www.dcrm.gov.mp

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION**
**As of August 02, 2019**

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

| APPLICANT | DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED | APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION | LOCATION | TYPE | STATUS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Saipan Dive Academy, Inc. | 07/10/2019 STLR-2018-X-125-R2 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/Instruction | All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan & Tinian | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 07/15/2019 |
| 2. The Rose Empire Corporation | 07/11/2019 SLR-2018-X-156-R2 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/Instruction | Mañagaha | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 07/19/2019 |
| 3. The Rose Empire Corporation | 07/11/2019 SLR-2018-X-157-R2 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/Instruction | Outer Cove Marina, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 07/15/2109 |
| 4. The Rose Empire Corporation | 07/11/2019 SLR-2018-X-158-R2 | Parasailing & Snorkeling | Outer Cove Marina, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 07/15/2019 |
| 5. Aquatic Marine Co., dba Aquatic Marine Sports | 07/11/2018 SLR-2018-X-154-R2 | Personal Watercrafts | Outer Cove Marina, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 07/15/2019 |
| 6. Aquatic Marine Co., dba Aquatic Marine Sports | 07/11/2019 SLR-2018-155-R2 | Banana Boat, Parasailing & Snorkeling | Outer Cove Marina, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 07/15/2019 |
| 7. B&J Corporation dba Dive Y2K | 07/22/2019 SLR-2018-X-075-R2 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/Instruction | All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 07/25/2019 |
| 8. Department of Public Works | 07/30/2019 RSm-2019-0730 | Removal of Debris | Talakhaya, Rota | Shoreline | Under Review* |
| 9. Blue Palms Dive Service | 06/10/2019 RLRM-2019-X-0611 | SCUBA Diving | All Designated Dive Sites, Rota | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 07/26/2019 |
| 10. Rota SCUBA Center | 07/23/2019 RLRM-2019-X-0608 | SCUBA Diving | All Designated Dive Sites, Rota | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 07/25/2019 |

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

**Robert T. Torres**
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms
(Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758 CK
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff
Bank of Guam

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

| | |
|---|---|
| IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ELEANOR B. DELOS REYES Decedent. | Consolidates Cases: Civil Action No. 16-0079 |
| BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, vs. ELEANOR B. DELOS REYES and JESSIE S. DELOS REYES, Defendants. | Civil Action No. 14-0150 NOTICE OF AUCTION ON THE MORTGAGED PROPERTY |

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,** that under and by virtue of the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property entered in the above titled action on June 13, 2019, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due to Plaintiff Bank of Guam from the Estate of Eleanor B. Delos Reyes and Defendant Jessie S. Delos Reyes, as prescribed in the Order Granting the Amended Motion for Order of Judicial Sale. The undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on **August 29, 2019, at 10:00 a.m.**, at the Law Office Robert T. Torres, Law Office, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being in Dandan on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot No. 010 K 102, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 010 K 01 the original of which was recorded 19 AUG 1987 as Document No. 87-2911 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

**Terms and Conditions of Sale:**

**1. Public Sale.** The auction shall be open to the general public.

**2. With Reserve.** The auction sale shall be held with reserve.

**3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the action sale:

a. to withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
b. to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
c. to reject any and all bids.

**4. Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Fax: (670) 234-5749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com and robert.torres@rttlaw-group.com. Any person who submits his/her bid shall provide a copy of his/her valid Identification Card, or other legally acceptable form of identification. A written bid shall include the bidder's signature with his/her telephone number, mailing address, and any other contact information.

**5. Deposit and Payment:** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, money order, or cashier's check. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and interest in any of the property, which will revert to Plaintiff Bank of Guam.

**6. Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and the Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by the constructive notice.

**7. Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer. A copy of the appraisal report and other documents pertaining to the mortgaged property to be sold at public auction is available upon request.

**DATED this 24th day of June, 2019.**

/s/
Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

# Nation

# Divisions test Biden's front-runner strength

**DETROIT** (AP)—The ideological divisions gripping the Democratic Party intensified on Wednesday as presidential candidates waged an acrimonious battle over health care, immigration and race that tested the strength of early front-runner Joe Biden's candidacy.

The former vice president was repeatedly forced to defend his decades-old political record against pointed attacks from his younger, diverse rivals, who charged that Biden's eight-year relationship with President Barack Obama was not reason enough to earn the Democratic nomination.

The attacks on Biden in the second presidential debate were most vivid coming from California Sen. Kamala Harris, who declared that his willingness to work with segregationists in the U.S. Senate during the 1970s could have had dramatic consequences on the surge of minority candidates in political office. And, she said, it could have prevented her and fellow presidential candidate Cory Booker, both of whom are black, from becoming senators.

"Had those segregationists had their way, I would not be a member of the United States Senate, Cory Booker would not be a member of the United States Senate, and Barack Obama would not have been in a position to nominate" Biden to become vice president, she said.

When pressed, Biden repeatedly leaned on his relationship with Obama.

"We're talking about things that occurred a long, long time ago," Biden said. "Everybody's talking about how terrible I am on these issues. Barack Obama knew who I was."

The dynamic showcased the challenges ahead for Biden and his party as Democrats seek to rebuild the young and multiracial coalition that helped Obama win two presidential elections. Those differences were debated on a broad menu of issues including health care, immigration and women's reproductive rights.

But it was the discussion of race that marked an escalating rift shaping the Democratic primary. At the same time, polls show that Biden has far more support from minority voters than his challengers, especially in the crucial early voting state of South Carolina.

Booker, who at times adopted the position of peacemaker, also took Biden to task over criminal justice issues and his role in passing a crime bill while a Delaware senator in the 1990s. When Biden fought back by criticizing Booker's tenure as mayor of Newark, New Jersey, before becoming a New Jersey senator, Booker shot back: "You're dipping into the Kool-Aid and you don't even know the flavor."

In Detroit, a city where Democrats desperately need strong minority turnout to beat President Donald Trump next year, Biden, 76, repeatedly clashed with the two black candidates in the race, as well as the only candidate of Mexican heritage, all of whom are more than two decades his junior. Biden emphasized his work as vice president to help the auto industry and the city repair its bankrupt finances.

For Democrats, the internal fight, while common to almost every primary cycle, is one many would rather avoid, favoring instead a focus on defeating Trump. Several candidates said they thought Trump should be impeached and others called him a racist.

"The first thing I am going to do is Clorox the Oval Office," New York Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand said.

Biden's struggling 2020 competitors see no better way to undermine his candidacy than raising questions about his commitment to black voters and women.

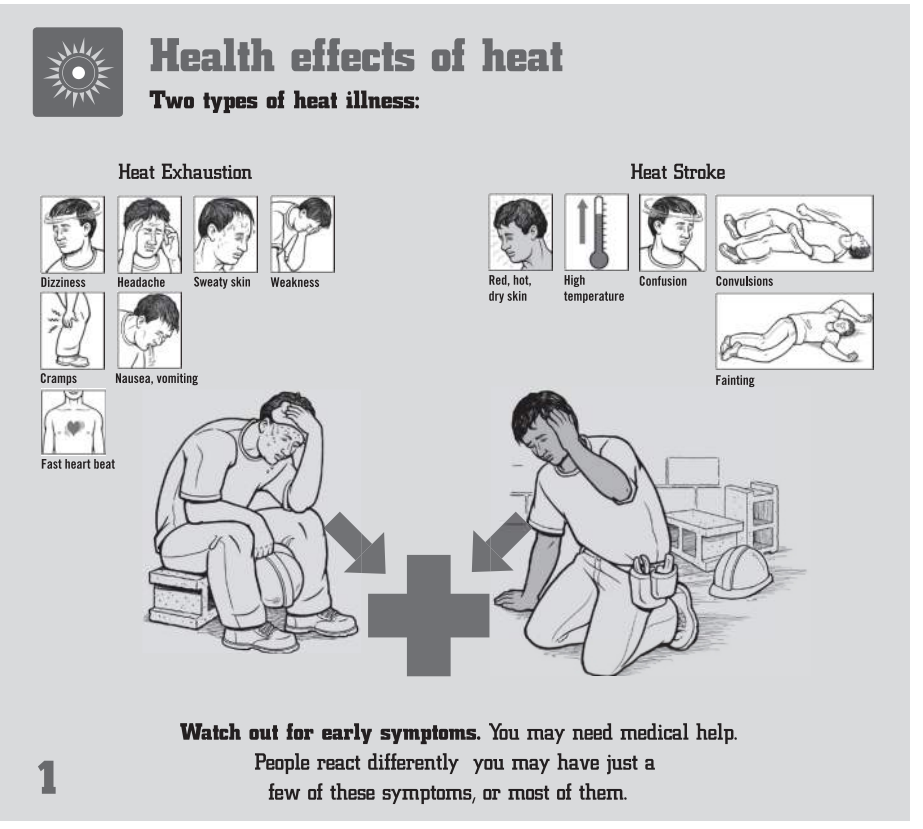
Anticipating a rough night, Biden greeted Harris onstage by quipping, "Go easy on me, kid."

She did not — and he often responded in kind.

Biden charged that Harris' health care plan would cost taxpayers $3 trillion even after two terms in office and would force middle-class taxes to go up, not down. He said that would put Democrats at a disadvantage against Trump.

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**
**Department of Labor**

**Contact the CNMI-OSHA On-Site Consultation Program for your FREE consultation services.**




For more information, please call CNMI-OSHA On-Site Consultation office at
Tel.: 664-3154/5/6/7 or
Email: Wallace Chong: wchongdolosha@gmail.com
Sidney Camacho: scamachodolosha@gmail.com

*This ad is paid for by U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration*

**U.S. PROBATION OFFICE**
Districts of Guam and
the Northern Mariana Islands

# NOTICE OF SOLICITATION

**TREATMENT SERVICES FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE, MENTAL HEALTH, AND SEX OFFENDERS FOR FEDERAL DEFENDANTS AND OFFENDERS**

The U.S. Probation/Pretrial Services Office, Districts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands, intends to procure substance abuse, mental health, and sex offender treatment services for federal defendants and offenders using Blanket Purchase Agreements (BPAs). Separate BPAs will be issued for Guam, Saipan, Rota, and Tinian, and required services may include the following: **urine collection testing and reporting; intake and assessment; counseling; psychological evaluations; medication; and therapy**.

Interested vendors must respond on time and clearly show the following: (1) they can provide services; (2) such services will be provided by certified, licensed professionals with experience in such treatment; and (3) prices of such treatment shall be as low or lower than those charged to the vendor's most favored customer for comparable quantities under similar terms and conditions.

Interested vendors must contact John San Nicolas, Supervisory U.S. Probation Officer, no later than Friday, August 9, 2019 at the following address:

U.S. Probation Office
Districts of Guam and the NMI
2nd Floor U.S. Courthouse
520 West Soledad Avenue
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Email: john_san_nicolas@gup.uscourts.gov
Telephone: (671) 969-4600
Facsimile: (671) 969-4601

## ACROSS THE NATION

### Police: 2 babies abandoned in California were twins, 1 died

**FAIRFIELD, Calif.** (AP)— Newborn twins, including one who died, were found abandoned near a dumpster at a California strip mall after being born just minutes earlier, police said Wednesday. The infant died before officers arrived Tuesday at the site in Fairfield, about 50 miles (80 kilometers) northeast of San Francisco. The other baby was taken to a hospital and was in stable condition, Fairfield police spokesman Lt. Jausiah Jacobsen said. Police were called to the strip mall by a restaurant worker who told a dispatcher that two infants were with a woman and appeared to have been recently birthed on a sidewalk behind mall businesses. The woman was found walking nearby and was also taken to a hospital, where she remained Wednesday, Jacobsen said. Officers found the newborns and started life-saving efforts. In California, people can anonymously surrender a newborn at a firehouse or hospital within 72 hours of birth without fear of being prosecuted.

### Suspected gas explosion reduces home to rubble; 5 injured

**WASHINGTON, Pa.** (AP)— An explosion believed to have been caused by a gas leak reduced a western Pennsylvania home to a pile of rubble and injured five people, authorities said. The blast just before 4 p.m. Wednesday near a high school in North Franklin Township was widely felt around the area, the (Washington) Observer-Reporter reported. Washington County Director of Public Safety Jeff Yates told the paper that three township firefighters, the homeowner and a neighbor were injured. Officials said none of the injuries appeared life-threatening. Firefighters had been in the area investigating a gas smell in the neighborhood before the blast, township supervisor Bob Sabot said. Christi Frauenholz, of Canton, Ohio, whose husband was working at the nearby Washington & Jefferson College, told the paper that she and others "were about knocked off our feet."

**COMMONWEALTH JUDICIARY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**
Guma' Hustisia / Iimwal Aweewe / House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165 ▪ Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9700/9800 ▪ Facsimile: (670) 236-9702
Website: www.justice.gov.mp

# EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

## DEPUTY MARSHAL I – TINIAN

Announcement # JVA19-023
On the island of TINIAN

**DUTIES:** The successful candidate will work under the Chief Justice and under the direct of the Chief Marshal in the Marshal Service Division on Saipan which involves the enforcement and execution of judicial orders and assigned law enforcement duties. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Perform general court security duties, including providing safety and security during judicial proceedings, maintaining order in the courtroom and during prisoner processing, providing protection from harm and personal injury to assigned justices, judges, court personnel, clients, jurors and witnesses;
- Provide protection from damage and vandalism to the court facilities, equipment, and other related resources;
- Assist with all necessary inspection and screening of persons and items entering the court facilities, restricting from entry those that are prohibited within the court premises;
- Provide physical and electronic security monitoring of all assigned areas under the control of the Marshals Service Division;
- Provide Protective Service Detail (PSD) personal security for all justices and judges on official business outside the court premises;
- Assist in transporting and escorting prisoners and other detainees who are awaiting court appearance. This includes transporting prisoners to and from the Department of Corrections (or from other locations as instructed) and the courthouse; to and from the courthouse holding cells and the courtrooms;
- Assist in protecting and transporting jurors and other court personnel during jury trial and deliberation;
- Assist with court bailiff functions, community policing, community supervision, compliance checks;
- Assist in the preparation of reports of service and no-service, including submission of daily activity and incident reports;
- Provide the general public with direction and general information on all judicial service locations with the courthouse;
- Provides assistance to superiors and other law enforcement personnel, particularly in operations, dispatching information;
- Prepares official reports with clarity and completeness on reports submitted to supervisors during the duty shift;
- Coordinates incoming requests for service at the Marshals Service Division and dispatch personnel in an efficient manner which will serve the public;
- Ensure proper handling and disposition of all in-custody prisoners/detainees; provide security, enforcement of established rules and regulations and others, which are provided herein. This critical task requires Deputies to escort prisoners/defendants to hearings as directed;
- Assists in all phases of law enforcement operations, including conducting investigations related criminal cases and or complaints of alleged violation of law, rules, and regulations filed with the Judiciary;
- Serves summons subpoenas and other official documents;
- Examines files and secures evidence and records as required;
- Serves warrants for arrests, searches, and seizures as necessary;
- Possess skills necessary for the use of and care of firearms, and performs and enforces the CNMI Weapons Control Act and Federal Firearms Regulations. Applicant is required to pass either a CNMI Law Enforcement or Federal Firearms Certification course and meet the criteria for annual firearms qualification to carry firearms under the Marshals Service Division Firearms Standard Operating Procedures;
- Must meet the physical fitness and agility requirements testing standards approved by the Chief Marshal or designee;
- Attends and successfully completes all training courses as directed by the Chief Marshal, including but not limited to, any law enforcement officers training courses offered through the Northern Marians College, local law enforcement and Federal law enforcement agencies;
- Assists the other Deputy Marshals in their duties; and
- Perform other related duties as assigned.

**QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS:** Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Must also satisfy a minimum of two (2) years experience in law enforcement and/or one-year college level education in criminal justice or related field of study. Law Enforcement Academy Training Preferred, but not required.

Successful candidates must complete and pass law enforcement training, including firearms qualification, during the probationary period.

Military experience may be considered; successful candidates with only military background must complete additional law enforcement training during the probationary period.

Must have the ability to maintain and control sensitive and confidential information, maintain professional records, and uphold office policies.

Candidate must provide current police and traffic clearances and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI. Must have a valid CNMI driver's license and be able operate a court vehicle. Criminal background check will be conducted. Applicants with criminal records will not be considered. Applicants given a conditional offer of employment with the CNMI Judiciary will be required to submit to urinalysis to screen for the illegal use of drugs prior to employment.

**COMPENSATION AND TENURE:** This is an ungraded position appointed and served at the pleasure of the Chief Justice. The salary will be $20,000 annually.

**INTERESTED PERSONS** may obtain application form at the Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 212 on the second floor or Window #3 at the front of the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Kotten Tinian and Centron Hustisia in Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

Human Resources
Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670)236-9818 / 234-6252/ 783-8592
Fax. (670) 236-9702
hr.judiciary@justice.gov.mp

This job announcement will remain open until filled and can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at http://www.justice.gov.mp.

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**COMMONWEALTH JUDICIARY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**
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# EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

## ADMINISTRATIVE / HUMAN RESOURCE SPECIALIST

On the island of SAIPAN
Announcement # JVA19-026

**DUTIES:** The successful candidate will work under the general supervision of the Chief Justice and under the direct supervision of the Director of Courts under the rules promulgated by the Judicial Council and the Supreme Court. The candidate is responsible for assisting with administrative and human resource functions of the CNMI Judiciary. The candidate is expected to perform the following duties and responsibilities, but are not limited to the following:

- Assist with the processing of vacancy announcements, pre-employment screening, application requirements, set up of interview panels, post-offer procedures and related recruitment procedures and documents;
- Assist with the processing of employment documents including but not limited to Notification of Personnel Actions (NOPAs), personnel cost impact sheets, contracts and conditions, inter-office forms, and related documents;
- Assist with the tracking of employees and personnel costs, including those for wages, health and pension benefits, and other related financial impact information;
- Assist with the planning and implementation of staff training and professional development programs;
- Compile, review, and transmit information necessary for position descriptions, pay scales, and other human resource standards;
- Assist with certifications of employment history or background check;
- Assist with the drafting of physical and digital templates, forms and documents for use in meeting administrative and personnel procedures and standards;
- Draft correspondence and reports relevant to administrative and human resource functions;
- Assist with data compilation, budget and cost analysis reports;
- Review, track, and report on internal and external factors related to administrative projects and personnel processing;
- Assist with the drafts of monthly, quarterly, close-out or other standard progress reports;
- Assist with records handling and tracking of funds for administrative and payroll costs;
- Maintain and improve upon existing paper and digital filing systems related to general correspondence, administrative projects, personnel standards, and performance reports;
- Safeguard confidentiality for and monitor strict controls of administrative and personnel records;
- Develop knowledge for and maintain current updates on administrative and personnel compliance requirements and assist court personnel and partners in meeting compliance mandates;
- Monitor important dates affecting administrative and personnel projects and assist with deadline compliance;
- Adhere to local and federal document and information requirements in the course of performing administrative and personnel tasks;
- Assist in the procurement process for proposals, expenditures, and delivery of services or items;
- Assists with procedures for audits of funds, employment practices, performance, or inventory;
- Foster and maintain professional network with internal and external partners and maintain registry of contacts information;
- Provide standard administrative support for designated projects as assigned by the Director of Courts or his/her designee;
- Maintain and submit performance tracking reports to the Director of Courts or his/her designee; and
- Perform other duties as assigned by the Chief Justice.

**QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS:** The Administrative and Human Resource Specialist must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Must also satisfy one of the following: (1) Have an associate's degree from a nationally accredited college or university in liberal arts, public or business administration, business management, criminal justice, or other appropriate field and two years of experience in secretarial, human resource, legal or administrative support or related work; OR (2) four years in human resource, legal or administrative support or related field. The person must be skilled with the use of computers, internet, general office equipment, and other electronic devices standard to the justice system. Software proficiency is required, especially with Microsoft Office programs such as Word, Excel and PowerPoint. The person must have a valid CNMI driver's license and be able to operate a government vehicle.

**COMPENSATION AND TENURE:** This position is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Chief Justice. The salary range will be $23,000 - $25,000 annually.

**INTERESTED PERSONS** may obtain application form at the Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 212 on the second floor or Window #3 at the front of the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Kotten Tinian and Centron Hustisia in Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

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# EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

## FAMILY COURT PROJECT ASSISTANT

Announcement # JVA19-024
SAIPAN

**DUTIES:** This position is under the general supervision of the of the Presiding Judge of the Commonwealth Superior Court and direct supervision of the Family Court Manager or his/her designee. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Assist the Family Court Manager in the daily operations of the Family Court Division;
- Assist Pro Se Litigants coming to the Family Court Division for assistance;
- Assist in the mediation sessions, "Separating Parents" classes, and family court cases preparations;
- Assist in Home Study scheduling and planning;
- Represent the Family Court Division Manager in meetings with other agencies, both government and non-governmental organizations;
- Assist in the preparation of administrative reports to the Judicial Council, the Criminal Justice Planning Agency, the Presiding Judge and the Chief Justice;
- Assist Family Court staff in cases involving adoption, divorce, annulment, change of name, wardship, guardianship, family protection orders and child support;
- Assist the courtroom clerks with docketing and scheduling of hearings for Family Protection/Temporary Restraining Order cases;
- Track all Informa Pauperis applications;
- Track all Veterans that come through the Family Court Division;
- Collect and analyze Compact Impact data for submission to the Judicial Council;
- Input case information into Justware Case Management System and retrieve case information from the Lexis E-Filing system;
- Assist with the Juvenile Justice Council;
- Perform other related duties as assigned.

**QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS:** The Family Court Project Assistant must have a high school diploma or equivalent, plus two (2) years of experience in client services, data collection or similar field. Must have the ability to maintain and control sensitive and confidential information, maintain professional records, and uphold office policies. Successful candidate must provide current police and traffic clearances and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI. Must have a valid CNMI driver's license and be able operate a court vehicle. Applicants given a conditional offer of employment with the CNMI Judiciary will be required to submit to urinalysis to screen for the illegal use of drugs prior to employment.

Must have the ability to maintain and control sensitive and confidential information, maintain records professionally, and uphold office policies. Must be proficient with the use of general office software including but not limited to Microsoft Word and Excel.

**COMPENSATION AND TENURE:** This is an ungraded position appointed and serves at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. The salary range will be $20,485 annually.

**INTERESTED PERSONS** may obtain application form at the Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 212 on the second floor or Window #3 at the front of the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Kotten Tinian and Centron Hustisia in Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

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# Asia

## Bangladesh grapples with country's worst dengue outbreak

**DHAKA, Bangladesh** (AP)— Bangladesh is facing its worst-ever dengue fever outbreak as hospitals are flooded with patients, putting a severe strain on the country's already overwhelmed medical system.

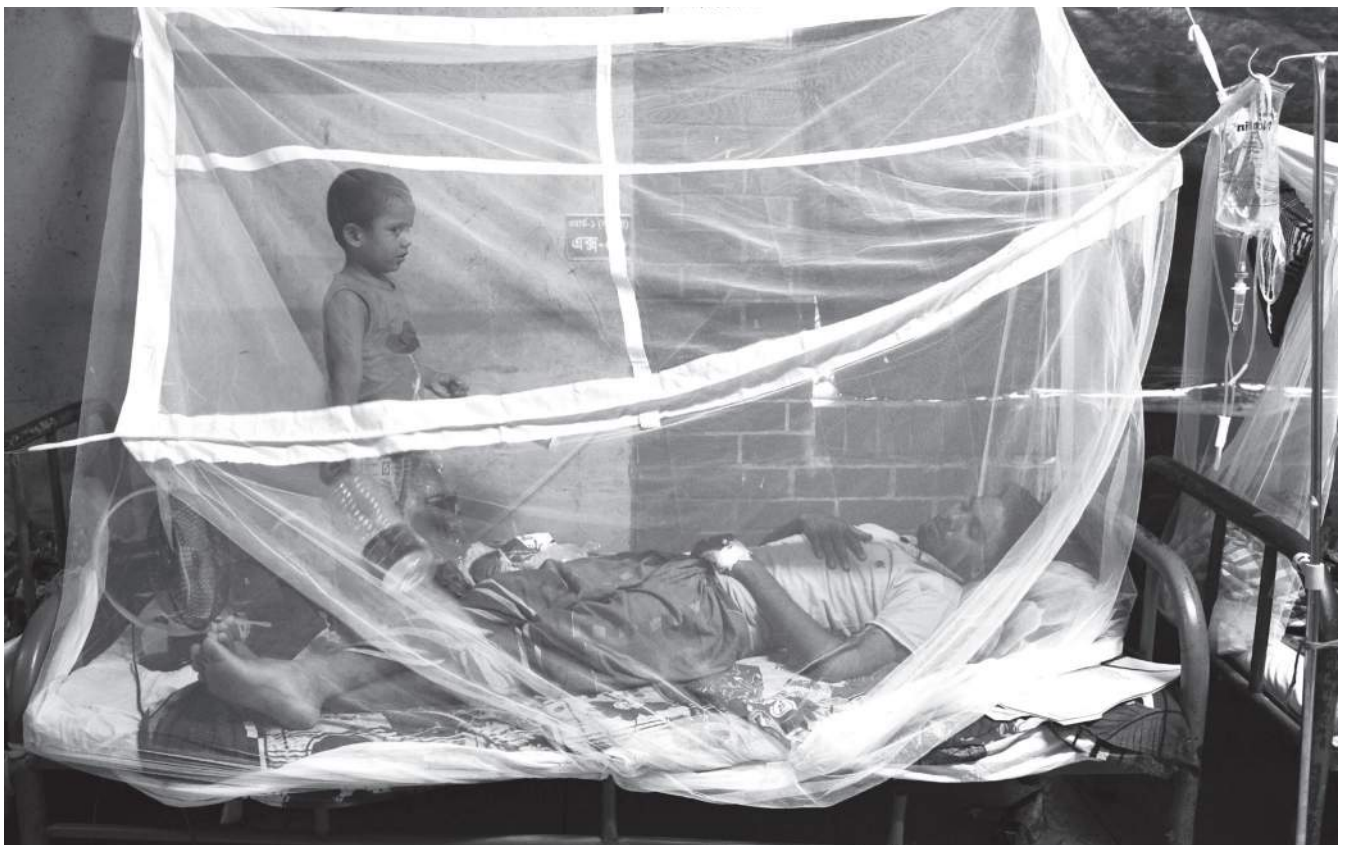
The mosquito-borne viral infection has spread across the country, with 61 out of 64 districts reporting dengue cases by late Tuesday.

The government has confirmed 15,369 dengue cases since Jan. 1. Of those, 9,683 patients were diagnosed between July 1 and July 30. As of Tuesday, about 4,400 patients, including many children, were undergoing hospital treatment. There have been 14 deaths.

Officials from Dhaka, the overcrowded capital and the epicenter of the outbreak, have struggled to contain it, drawing criticism and spreading panic among some residents.

Dengue is found in tropical areas around the world and is spread by a type of mosquito that mainly lives in urban areas. The virus causes severe flu-like symptoms, and while there is no specific treatment for the illness, medical care to maintain a person's fluid levels is seen as critical.

There are fears that the situation in the countryside will worsen as many residents of the city travel to villages to celebrate Eid-ul-Adha next month. Infected humans can serve as a source of the virus for uninfected mosquitoes.



AP

A man receives treatment for dengue, with his son standing beside him at Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College and Hospital in Dhaka, Bangladesh, Wednesday, July 31, 2019.

Ayesha Akhter, assistant director at the Directorate General of Health Services under the Ministry of Health, said an outbreak of dengue has accompanied every monsoon since 2000, but this year's situation is the worst.

A DGHS study identified a six-fold increase in the Aedes aegypti mosquito population in four months in Dhaka as the primary cause of the larger-than-average outbreak.

Earlier this month, the World Health Organization said the dengue situation in Bangladesh was "alarming but not out of control."

Other countries in Asia are also facing a surge in dengue cases this year, including Thailand, where 53,699 cases and 65 deaths were reported as of July 23.

Nevertheless, with dengue cases soaring in recent weeks, Dhaka hospitals have been running out of room and manpower to treat new patients.

Prof. Abul Kalam Azad, director general of DGHS, said they had asked the hospitals to increase beds for dengue patients and to open dengue wards. The government also halved the charges for diagnosing dengue and directed public and private hospitals, clinics and diagnostic centers to do the same.

Dhaka Medical College Hospital, the largest hospital in the country, opened a special ward for dengue patients, said A.K.M. Nasir Uddin, its director general.

Prof. Uttam Kumar Barua, director of Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College and Hospital, another major public hospital in Dhaka, said they were relying on senior medical students to assist doctors in the face of so many patients.

"We don't have manpower, logistic support and technicians as much as needed. That's why we are having too much pressure. We have three times more patients than our bed capacity," Barua said.

He said they were admitting every dengue patient who entered the hospital but could not provide beds or even seats for everyone, adding that many had been asked to wait in hospital corridors and verandas.

Champa Begum took her 8-month-old to Shaheed hospital on Wednesday.

"I have other kids. I go to work leaving this one to another child. I have no way but to work," she said. "I can't take care of this child properly. This child is laid down anywhere. My home is above dirty water. That how this one was bitten and got dengue."

## China warns against bid to sow discord over South China Sea

**BANGKOK** (AP)— China on Wednesday warned outside nations against any attempt to sow discord between Beijing and Southeast Asian countries by playing up disputes over the South China Sea, saying differences can be resolved peacefully between the affected parties themselves.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, speaking after talks with his counterparts from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations at an annual meeting of the 10-member bloc, also reaffirmed Beijing's commitment to conclude a Code of Conduct with ASEAN governing the South China Sea that will make the disputed region more stable.

China's aggressive territorial claims in the South China Sea, which carries a third of global shipping, has drawn rebuke from the United States and become a flashpoint for the region, with parts of the sea overlapping claims by ASEAN members Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia and Brunei.

Tensions flared anew after Chinese naval boats rammed Philippine fishing boats and Vietnam accused China of violating its sovereignty by interfering with offshore oil and gas activities in disputed waters. The U.S. State Department has said Chinese action in Vietnam undermined regional energy security and urged Beijing to "cease its bullying behavior" and refrain from "provocative and destabilizing activity."

The U.S. also regularly sails and flies military assets close to the disputed areas in what it calls freedom of navigation operations. On Tuesday, Philippine Defense Chief Delfin Lorenzana also criticized China's "bullying" actions in the South China Sea and said Beijing's peaceful assurances contrast with its behavior in the contested waters.

Wang said Wednesday that Beijing and ASEAN nations can settle the disputes without any interference.

"We think non-regional countries should not deliberately amplify such differences or disputes," he said when asked about U.S. involvement. "Instead they should support the efforts by China and ASEAN in having these differences properly addressed."

He said China and ASEAN aim to conclude talks on the Code of Conduct within three years or even earlier, which will not only manage disputes more effectively but ensure the rights of non-regional countries in the waters are better protected.

Wang also said China is exploring plans to "institutionalize" joint military exercises with ASEAN countries in the region after two previous drills.

ASEAN and China have completed the first round of negotiations on the code, but experts said the next two rounds of talks are likely to be contentious because there is no sign that China will agree to anything that would undermine its maritime claims.

ASEAN foreign ministers, in a joint communique after their annual meeting earlier Wednesday, said some ministers had expressed concerns on "the land reclamations, activities and serious incidents in the area which have eroded trust and confidence" and raised tensions. They didn't name any country but repeated calls for "non-militarization and self-restraint in the conduct of all activities by claimants and all other states."

## India promotes Hindu pilgrimage as sign of peace in Kashmir

**PAHALGAM, India** (AP)— India is pitching a Hindu pilgrimage to a snowy cave shrine in disputed, Muslim-majority Kashmir as evidence of peace in a state marred by decades of armed conflict amid popular resistance to Indian rule.

The annual yatra, or spiritual journey, to the Amarnath shrine, the hallowed mountain cave where devotees revere an icy stalagmite as an image of Lord Shiva, presents an opportunity for the state of Jammu and Kashmir to show something beyond the frequent skirmishes between armed separatists and Indian soldiers that have cost tens of thousands of lives.

"We're always in the news for the wrong reasons," said Khalid Jahangir, deputy commissioner of Anantnag, the district in Kashmir where the yatra takes place.

"There are some minuses, also some pluses," Jahangir said, adding that "whatever little (pluses) there are must also be projected," pointing to a photograph of four local men carrying a heavyset pilgrim in a palanquin as an example of communal harmony.

The pilgrims, many of them barefooted ascetics, chant hymns and ring bells as they travel through forested areas in Kashmir's Himalayas. The worshippers approach the shrine through two routes, a traditional one via the southern hill resort of Pahalgam and a shorter one through northeastern Baltal. Some also use helicopter services to pay quick obeisance.

The Amarnath cave is covered with snow most of the year except for a short period in summer when it is open for the pilgrims.

The state, run by a governor appointed by India's Hindu nationalist-led central government, has spent huge sums on an advertising campaign, including ads in two of India's highest circulation dailies, and on security. Some 40,000 security personnel were deployed to protect pilgrims who have been repeatedly targeted by militant groups, most recently in 2017, when seven were killed as their bus was attacked leaving the shrine area.

India accuses Pakistan of arming and training insurgents who have been fighting since 1989 for Kashmir's independence from India or its merger with Pakistan. Islamabad denies the charge. About 70,000 people have been killed in the uprising and the ensuing Indian crackdown.

India and Pakistan have fought two wars over Kashmir, the Himalayan territory they both claim and which is divided between them, and came near to a third after a suicide-bomb attack by a homegrown militant allied with a Pakistan-based extremist group on an Indian paramilitary convoy not far from the pilgrimage route.

India snapped official dialogue with Pakistan on outstanding issues after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government came to power in 2014, demanding that Pakistan first end "cross-border terrorism."

Most recently, New Delhi denied President Donald Trump's recent claim that Modi had asked him to act as a mediator for Kashmir.

# World

# Russian military called in to fight Siberian forest fires

**MOSCOW** (AP)—The Russian military on Wednesday joined efforts to fight forest fires that have engulfed nearly 30,000 square kilometers (11,580 sq. miles) of territory in Siberia and the Russian Far East—an area the size of Belgium.

The move, which includes sending military transport planes and helicopters that can drop water on fires, came after an order from Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Russian authorities have declared a state of emergency in five areas, including all of the Irkutsk and Krasnoyarsk regions, which lie north of Mongolia. Siberia's Krasnoyarsk region, which stretches all the way to the Kara Sea and the Arctic Ocean, can be seen blanketed in smoke by satellite photos from NASA and Europe's Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service (CAMS).

AP

This image made from video provided by RU-RTR Russian television channel shows a view of a forest fire in the Boguchansky district of the Krasnoyarsk region, Russia Far East, Wednesday, July 31, 2019.

No injuries or evacuations have been reported so far from the fires, many of which appear to have been started by lightning strikes in "dry thunderstorms" in which precipitation disperses before reaching the ground.

But the fires, which were being spread by strong winds, have produced heavy smoke has clogged the air in several cities, including Novosibirsk, Russia's third-largest city with a population of 1.6 million in southwestern Siberia.

Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev visited the city of Krasnoyarsk on Wednesday and gave a glum assessment of the forest fires.

"The situation is difficult. Many forests are burning, smog and smoke are observed over many populated areas. The prognosis at this moment is not happy," he said.

Late Wednesday, the White House issued a statement saying President Donald Trump had spoken with Putin earlier in the day and "expressed concern over the vast wildfires afflicting Siberia."

Russia's agency for aerial forest protection, Aviale-sookhrana, said about 2,700 firefighters were working to put out the blazes but it said about 28,000 square kilometers (10,800 sq. miles) of the fires were in difficult-to-reach areas. Those forest fires, it said, were not being fought because the costs and risks of doing so were higher than the potential damages the fires could cause to unpopulated areas.

Russia's vast stretches of forest have often been hit by widespread fires in the summer months. This year, however, the world experienced the warmest June on record.

"It's not for the first time that we're having this catastrophe in our country," said Mikhail Kreindlin, a Greenpeace activist in Moscow. "Why there is so much attention to it this year is because the smoke from the fires has reached the cities, with activists who (have) started to raise the issue."

Protests demanding action against the heavy smoke from the fires were planned for Thursday in Moscow outside the Ecology Ministry. Greenpeace also planned to submit a petition with more than 200,000 signatures to the Russian government urging a better response to wildfires and more preventive action.

# Israel approves Palestinian construction in West Bank

**JERUSALEM** (AP)—The Israeli Cabinet unanimously approved a proposal to build over 700 housing units for Palestinians in addition to 6,000 Israeli settlement housing units in the West Bank.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government advanced the proposal late on Tuesday, according to an Israeli official who spoke on condition of anonymity to describe the closed-door meeting.

A spokesman for Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas responded to the development by saying that the Palestinians don't need Israeli permits to build on land that Israel occupied.

The approval appeared timed to coincide with a visit by President Donald Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner, who is also the White House's chief Mideast envoy.

Kushner kicked off a new regional tour in Jordan on Wednesday to promote the Trump administration's call for a $50 billion economic support plan for the Palestinians. The funds would accompany a Mideast peace proposal, which the administration has yet to release. He then flew to Israel and met with Netanyahu later in the evening.

The Israeli permits are for construction in what is known as Area C—the roughly 60% of the West Bank where Israel exercises full control and where most Jewish settlements are located. Netanyahu's government has approved the construction of tens of thousands of settler homes there, but permits for Palestinian construction are extremely rare.

Israeli officials declined to provide specifics to The Associated Press about what exactly the 700 approved Palestinian units entailed.

Israel captured the West Bank, along with east Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip, in the 1967 Mideast war. The Palestinians seek these areas as parts of a future state. Most of the international community considers Israeli settlements in the West Bank illegal under international law and an impediment to a two-state solution to the conflict.

Nabil Abu Rudeineh, Abbas' spokesman, said the Palestinians have the right to build on all territory occupied in 1967, "without needing a permit from anyone"—referring to Israel.

"We will not give any legitimacy to the construction of any settlement," he also said.

The Western-backed Palestinian Authority has control of civilian affairs in Areas A and B, which include the West Bank's main Palestinian cities and towns.

Since capturing the West Bank and east Jerusalem in 1967, Israel has settled some 700,000 of its citizens in the two areas, which are considered occupied territory by most of the world.

Touring new construction in the West Bank settlement of Efrat, south of Jerusalem, Netanyahu said Wednesday that "not a single settlement or a single settler will ever be uprooted."

Transportation Minister Bezalel Smotrich, a religious nationalist in Netanyahu's government, wrote on Facebook that he backed the construction of Palestinian housing in Area C because "it prevents the establishment of a terrorist Arab state in the heart of the land" and asserts Israeli sovereignty over Area C.

Peace Now, an Israeli organization opposed to West Bank settlements, said in a statement that the approval of 700 housing units for Palestinians "is a mockery" because it "will not provide real answers to Palestinians who already live in Area C, and certainly will not help the entire West Bank to be developed as a Palestinian area."

Earlier in the day in Amman, Jordan, Kushner met with King Abdullah II. The royal court issued a statement afterward, saying the king restated the need for the creation of a Palestinian state based on the 1967 lines, with east Jerusalem as its capital.

The Palestinians have rejected the Washington proposal out of hand and have cut off all contact with the Trump administration, saying its policies are unfairly biased toward Israel.

## WORLD BRIEFS

### Canadian police scale down manhunt for fugitive teenagers

**WINNIPEG, Manitoba** (AP)—Canadian police said Wednesday they are scaling down but not abandoning the hunt in a remote and rugged part of northern Manitoba for two teenagers suspected of killing a college professor, a North Carolina woman and her Australian boyfriend. Over the last nine days, police and others have used helicopters, drones, boats and dogs to search approximately 4,200 square miles (11,000 square kilometers) of tundra, muskeg and dense forests. At one point a military Hercules aircraft was used in the search, which has stretched across three provinces. "To be clear, we're not ending the search," Royal Canadian Mounted Police Assistant Commissioner Jane MacLatchy told a news conference in Winnipeg. "I know that today's news is not what the families of the victims and the communities of northern Manitoba wanted to hear. But when searching for people in vast, remote and rugged locations, it is always a possibility that they are not immediately located," she said. Over the next week there will be a phased withdrawal of RCMP and military personnel and assets from the Gillam area, about 660 miles (1,100 kilometers) north of Winnipeg, where a burnt out vehicle belonging to the suspects was found last week. MacLatchy wouldn't say how many officers will remain involved in the search.

### 5.9 quake hits coast of El Salvador, no damage or injuries

**SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador** (AP)—A 5.9 magnitude earthquake has shaken the coast of El Salvador, drawing terrified residents out of their homes, but there were no reports of damage or injuries on Wednesday. Salvadoran President Nayib Bukele tweeted that "the government and the civil protection system is activated and ready" across the country. The U.S. Geological Survey reported that the quake was felt Tuesday at 11:54 p.m. local time (0554 GMT Wednesday). The agency said the quake's epicenter was some 15 miles (24 kilometers) southeast of Puerto La Libertad, at a depth of 45 miles (72.5 kilometers). Residents in the city of Santa Tecla, 7 miles (12 kilometers) southeast of the capital, briefly went out on the street because of the force of the quake but the situation quickly returned to normal.

### Russian spaceship brings 3 tons of supplies to space station

**MOSCOW** (AP)—An unmanned Russian spaceship carrying tons of supplies to the International Space Station has docked with the orbiting laboratory. The Progress 73 cargo ship blasted off atop a Soyuz rocket at 1210 GMT Wednesday from the Russian space complex in Baikonur, Kazakhstan, and docked with the ISS about 3 ½ hours later after two orbits. The Progress is carrying about 3 tons (2.7 metric tons) of food, fuel and supplies to the space station, which currently has six astronauts aboard. Those on the space station now include Nick Hague, Christina Koch and Andrew Morgan of the United States, Russians Alexander Skvortsov and Alexey Ovchinin and Luca Parmitano of Italy.

# Off The Wall

## Rural Nevada not equipped for big 'storm Area 51' turnout

**LAS VEGAS** (AP)—At first, the co-owner of the quirky alien-themed motel down a Nevada highway from the mysterious Area 51 site didn't take a posting for a prank Facebook event too seriously.

Then, her phone started ringing.

"It doesn't stop, our phone won't stop ringing," Connie West, of the Little A'le'Inn, told the Las Vegas Sun.

The 10-room motel is one of few businesses in Rachel, a town of 54 residents now gaining celebrity status among aviation and UFO enthusiasts attracted by the posting about a Sept. 20 event dubbed "storm Area 51."

More than 1 million people have responded to the internet post calling for people to "Naruto run" at 3 a.m. into the remote U.S. Air Force test area in the Nevada desert that has long been the focus of UFO conspiracy theories.

The face-forward, arms-back running style is favored by characters in the anime series "Naruto."

"They can't stop all of us," the post jokes. "Lets see them aliens."

The military is warning people not to try to enter the once top-secret Cold War site, which is posted and patrolled as part of the vast Nevada Test and Training Range.

After refusing for decades to acknowledge Area 51 even existed, the CIA declassified documents in 2013 referring to the 8,000-square mile (20,700-sq. kilometer) installation by name and locating it on a map near the dry Groom Lake bed.

The base has been a testing ground for top-secret aircraft including the U-2 spy plane in the 1950s and later the B-2 stealth bomber.

"Any attempt to illegally access the area is highly discouraged," the Air Force said in a statement released by Nellis Air Force Base near Las Vegas.

West is apprehensive about what might happen if big crowds arrive.

"It's a little scary to think that many people could descend on a town of 54," she said. "How can you prepare?"

Down the state Highway 375, dubbed the Extraterrestrial Highway, Linda Looney, at the Alien Research Center gift shop and campsite, told the Sun she also was concerned about the effect of the Facebook post.

"I don't think it's just a passing fancy," she said.

Lincoln County Sheriff Kerry Lee said he doesn't expect many people to actually show up, and county spokesman Ben Rowley tallied 184 hotel rooms in the county.

But Lee said 500 or 1,000 sudden visitors could create traffic, parking and congestion issues in a jurisdiction with 26 sworn sheriff's deputies and about 5,200 permanent residents mostly in rural towns including Caliente, Pioche, Panaca and Alamo.

"I think this started out as a joke but there may be enough people taking it seriously and it could be a problem," the sheriff said. "Someone is going to get hurt and people may go to jail. It's not anything to joke about."

## Grasshoppers on the go make migratory stop in Las Vegas area

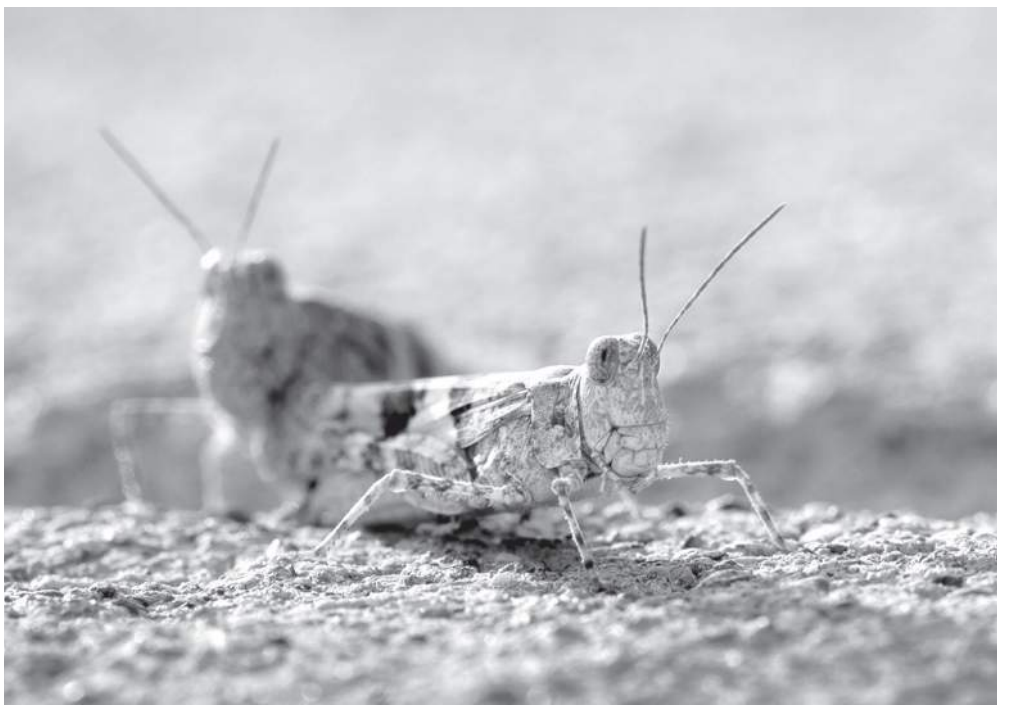
**LAS VEGAS** (AP)—A migration of mild-mannered grasshoppers sweeping through the Las Vegas area is being attributed to wet weather several months ago.

Nevada state entomologist Jeff Knight told reporters on Thursday the number of adult pallid-winged grasshoppers traveling north to central Nevada is unusual but not unprecedented and they pose no danger.

Knight says the insects don't carry disease, don't bite, and probably won't damage anybody's yard before they're gone in several weeks.

He says they're usually attracted to ultraviolet light sources.

Knight recalls several similar migrations in his more than 30 years at the state Department of Agriculture, including one about six or seven years ago.



AP

This Thursday, July 25, 2019, photo shows grasshoppers on a sidewalk outside the Las Vegas Sun offices in Henderson, Nev.

This year, the Las Vegas area recorded more rain in six months than the annual average of just under 4.2 inches (10.7 centimeters) per year.

## OFFBEAT BRIEFS

### Officer trying to rescue kitten finds a bobcat instead

**STRATHAM, N.H.** (AP)—A New Hampshire police officer says the kitten he was trying to pick up in a parking lot turned out to be a bobcat, which then jumped onto the roof of a Burger King. Stratham Officer Matt Callahan tells Seacoastonline.com he was on patrol Saturday and saw the "kitten" run under a car. It eventually climbed a tree near the restaurant. Once Callahan realized he was dealing with a young bobcat, he called state Fish and Game officers. He also stood in the drive-thru line to alert customers in case the bobcat decided to come down, but it climbed onto the roof and took a catnap. Callahan says he and the conservation officer climbed up and put the bobcat in a crate. The bobcat was released at a wildlife refuge.

### Reports: 'Clown' sparks brawl onboard UK-bound cruise ship

**LONDON** (AP)—British media reports say six people have been assaulted onboard a P&O cruise ship after a passenger dressed as a clown sparked a brawl. Richard Gaisford, an ITV journalist who was onboard the cruise ship travelling from Bergen, Norway, to Southampton, England, said security staff rushed to the buffet restaurant onboard after the late-night melee. He tweeted Saturday that the brawl apparently started when a "passenger dressed as a clown" upset a group of passengers. A P&O Cruises spokesman said all passengers have disembarked from the Britannia ship and police are investigating. The BBC quoted Hampshire Police as saying that six people were assaulted in the incident, which took place in the early hours of Friday. Police said two people were arrested.

### Woman suspects porch pirate stole package with 9 tarantulas

**SPARTANBURG, S.C.** (AP)—A South Carolina woman says a porch pirate may have stolen a package containing nine tarantulas from her front porch. News outlets report the woman says she received a notification Friday morning that the FedEx shipment had been delivered. When she went to get the package, she says it wasn't there. The Spartanburg County sheriff's office spokesman Lt. Kevin Bobo says the package was still missing as of Tuesday. A report from the sheriff's office says the spiders are valued at $1,000. The responding deputy listed the case as a "possible larceny of mail." The report says there's no surveillance video from the home and there are no suspects at this time.

### Judge will reconsider jail sentence for woman who fed strays

**GARFIELD HEIGHTS,** Ohio (AP)—A judge wants to take a second look at a 10-day jail sentence given to a 79-year-old woman for refusing to stop feeding stray cats in her suburban Cleveland neighborhood. Cleveland.com reports that Garfield Heights Municipal Court Judge Jennifer Weiler wants to hear the case herself after a jail sentence handed down to Nancy Segula by a city magistrate last week was widely criticized. Segula acknowledges repeatedly violating a city ordinance making it illegal for people to feed dogs and cats that aren't their own. She was sentenced to jail after her fourth appearance in court for the violations. She says she lost her husband and her own cats in 2017 and she began feeding the cats because she's lonely. A new court date has not been set.

### Ducks, stuck, loose: Police rescue 3 ducklings from grate

NEW YORK (AP)—A mother duck and her nine babies were crossing a New York City street when three ducklings fell through a storm grate and had to be retrieved by police. The rescue happened Sunday in the bustling Brooklyn neighborhood of Park Slope. Witness Lynn Harris told the news site Gothamist people had noticed the ducks and were following beside them, trying to provide a safe escort when the mother duck was spooked by a dog. That's when three of her little ones dropped through the grate outside a hospital. A crowd including animal rescuer Sean Casey gathered to help. Police officers opened the grate—but then dropped it into the hole. A nurse peeked in and shouted, "They're alive!" The ducks were then taken to a shelter.

## New Mexico chile plant is selected to be grown in space

**ESPAÑOLA, N.M.** (AP)—It'll be one giant leap for chile-kind.

A hybrid version of a New Mexico chile plant has been selected to be grown in space as part of a NASA experiment.

The chile, from Española, New Mexico, is tentatively scheduled to be launched to the International Space Station for testing in March 2020, the Albuquerque Journal reports .

A NASA group testing how to produce food beyond the Earth's atmosphere and the chile plant was created with input from Jacob Torres—an Española native and NASA researcher.

Torres said the point of sending the chiles into space is to demonstrate how NASA's Advanced Plant Habitat - which recreates environmental needs for plant growth like Co2, humidity and lighting - works not only for leafy greens, but for fruiting crops, as well.

"Which means that if we do go on a deep space mission, or we do go to the moon or a mission to Mars, we will have to figure out a way to supplement our diets," he said. "Understanding how to grow plants to supplement the astronaut's diet would be essential to our mission to going to Mars. So that kind of fuels our research that we're doing now."

The "Española Improved" chile plant is a cross between a northern New Mexico seed and the popular Sandia seed from the Hatch Valley. It will be the first fruiting plant that the U.S. will grow aboard the Space Station.

NASA's astronauts have previously grown greens, and a zinnia bloomed in space in 2016.

Matthew W. Romeyn, NASA's lead scientist on the pepper project, said in an emailed statement that the group chose the Española-Sandia hybrid because of the shorter growth cycle, as well as its ability to thrive within the smaller confines of the Advanced Plant Habitat. The growth period may be longer in space.

"As a bonus, the Española Improved is one of the few chile pepper cultivars from the Hatch Valley that is also regularly consumed red, so we can leave it to the crew to decide if they would like their chile peppers green or to wait for the fruit to fully ripen to red," Romeyn said.

Chiles could even boost morale, Torres said, when astronauts have something tasty and different from the prepackaged meals.

"Just by having something fresh to eat, a type of crop you grew yourself, being away from home for a long time, that picks up your morale, it brings positivity and adds to the mission that you're doing," he said. "That's one important aspect of the research that we're doing."

# Science & Technology

## One hack, 106 million people: Capital One ensnared by breach

**SEATTLE** (AP)—A hacker accessed the personal information of 106 million Capital One credit card holders or credit card applicants in the U.S. and Canada, in the latest massive data breach at a large company.

Capital One Financial Corp., one of the nation's largest issuers of credit cards, said among the information obtained by the hacker was 140,000 Social Security numbers and 80,000 bank account numbers. It said no credit card account numbers or log-in credentials were compromised.

The breach is among the largest of a major U.S. financial institution on record. The bank said the bulk of the hacked data consisted of information supplied by consumers and small businesses who applied for credit cards between 2005 and early 2019. Consumers concerned that their information may have been hacked are advised to take steps such as obtaining a free copy of their credit report or freezing their credit.

AP

Vehicles are parked outside the home of Paige A. Thompson, who uses the online handle "erratic," Wednesday, July 31, 2019, in Seattle. Thompson was taken into custody Monday at her home and has been charged with computer fraud and abuse in connection with hacking data from more than 100 million Capital One credit holders or applicants.

Capital One's stock tumbled nearly 6% Tuesday, the largest single-day decline since January.

Paige A. Thompson, who uses the online handle "erratic," was charged with a single count of computer fraud and abuse in U.S. District Court in Seattle. Thompson made an initial appearance in court and was ordered to remain in custody pending a detention hearing Thursday.

Federal agents began tracking Thompson online after being notified by Capital One of a possible breach in July.

On June 18, Thompson sent a message on Twitter to another user saying, "Ive basically strapped myself with a bomb vest, (expletive) dropping capitol ones dox and admitting it."

The FBI raided Thompson's residence Monday and seized digital devices. An initial search turned up files that referenced Capital One and "other entities that may have been targets of attempted or actual network intrusions."

Thompson was a former employee of Amazon Web Services, which is Amazon's cloud computing division. Thompson was a systems engineer at AWS between 2015 and 2016, about three years before the breach took place. Capital One has been enthusiastic about using cloud technology to store its data in recent years and has been a big customer of AWS' cloud platform for some time.

A resume Paige Thompson posted on a Slack group she created says she worked on its front-end interface with users and security updates.

There is no evidence that Amazon's cloud system was involved in the breach.

"AWS was not compromised in any way and functioned as designed," a company spokesperson said Tuesday, adding that the system vulnerability that Thompson exploited "is not specific to the cloud."

Capital One was notified by a third party on July 19 that its data had appeared on the code-hosting site GitHub, which is owned by Microsoft. The McLean, Virginia, company says it immediately notified the FBI.

## Softbank, ride hailing app Grab investing $2B in Indonesia

**JAKARTA, Indonesia** (AP)—Japanese technology company Softbank and Southeast Asian ride hailing app Grab said Monday they're investing $2 billion in Indonesia over the next five years.

Grab made the announcement after a meeting Monday between Indonesian President Joko Widodo and executives from Grab and its major investor Softbank.

Grab is using money already invested in it by Softbank for the investments in Indonesia, which is Southeast Asia's largest economy.

In its statement Grab said it and Softbank will "create a next-generation transport network for Indonesia based around an electric vehicle ecosystem that will drive cities toward a greener and cleaner transportation grid."

The statement also mentioned development of "e-healthcare" and mapping services.

"This investment is evidence that Indonesia has been on the radar of investors, especially in the technology sector," said Luhut Binsar Panjaitan, a Cabinet minister.

Grab vies with local startup Go-Jek in Indonesia's ride hailing, food delivery and virtual payments markets.

Science Matters
Current solutions
Progressive lenses gradually transition from near focus (at bottom) to distant focus (at top)
DISTANT
NEAR
NEAR
DISTANT
Monovision uses glasses (or contact lenses) that correct the dominant eye for distant vision and the non-dominant for near vision
Self-focusing lenses for aging eyes
Presbyopia ("old vision") often begins in late middle age – an inability to focus the eyes on near objects, such as a book. A new autofocus design for glasses comes to the rescue.
Autofocal glasses (prototype)
Depth camera, or range finder, measures the distance to any point in field of view
Adjustable focus lenses quickly bring near or distant objects into focus
Coma correction lenses reduce distortion of objects along sides of the scene
Eye tracker is a small camera that constantly watches the direction of the person's gaze; eye-track systems are often used to study how a person scans a written page
Bulky experimental version
All the components of the autofocus system have been mounted on a head harness to test how well they function
Source: N. Padmanaban of Stanford University; Science Advances journal
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service

## TECH Q&A No, the iPhone 5s is not obsolete

**Q: My husband and I both have iPhone 5s models. While the batteries don't hold a charge very well, the phones still work. But I've heard a rumor that iPhone 5s models won't work after Dec. 31. Is that true?**

**A:** No, that's not true. Old iPhones will continue to work until they are worn out or their batteries no longer hold a charge.

But this brings up an interesting question. Are your phones obsolete? The iPhone 5s is obsolete in the sense that it hasn't been sold in the U.S. since 2016. But it is still current in that it can use Apple's most recent operating system, iOS 12.4, that was just released.

There have been unsubstantiated rumors that the iPhone 5s won't be able to use the next Apple operating system, iOS 13, but that is far from certain.

And even if the 5s is stuck using an old, unsupported operating system, you can continue to use it without concern. The only drawback is that the App Store will begin to have fewer apps that can run on your phones.

To avoid being flooded with e-mails from frustrated Windows 7 users, I have to explain why it is safe to continue using an outdated iPhone operating system but not the outdated Windows 7 PC operating system, even though both will no longer get security updates.

By STEVE ALEXANDER
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

*Steve Alexander covers technology for the* Minneapolis Star Tribune*. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.*

When this happens to Windows 7 in January 2020, the operating system will be vulnerable to virtually every new piece of malware on the internet. That's because of the way Windows is designed (not as well as it should have been) and because Windows 7 is such a big target for malware writers (35% of all PC owners still use it.)

The iPhone operating system is better designed from a security standpoint, and the iPhone 5s in particular represents a tiny target for malware writers, just 1.3% of all smartphones in use. (In addition, the iOS 12 operating system your phones use won't be on many iPhones once iOS 13 is available—making your phones an even smaller target for malware writers.)

Bottom line: Almost nobody writes malware for the iPhone, so you can keep using your iPhone 5s models indefinitely.

**Q: I tried to reset my TP-Link router by typing its IP (Internet Protocol) address into my Google Chrome browser. I got the message: "You have no authority to access this router." I was able to log into the router using the Opera browser. Unfortunately, I allowed an online help service to have remote access to my computer, and I'm concerned that they may have put malware on my PC. But scans with MRT, Windows Defender and Malwarebytes found nothing. What can I do?**

**A:** I think your PC is OK. The "no authority" message probably did come from your router as a result of a software incompatibility between TP-Link routers and some web browsers. If you can access the router with the Opera browser, that is probably the best solution. You should never allow a stranger online to have access to your PC. But you did the right thing by running security scans. (I am assuming that "MRT" is really MSRT, or Malicious Software Removal Tool. If not, download MSRT from Microsoft at tinyurl.com/z85al7o).

# Life & Style

## Jury gets a glimpse into costs of making a Katy Perry hit

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—It's expensive to promote a Katy Perry hit, a music executive told a jury that will decide how much the pop superstar and other collaborators on her 2013 song "Dark Horse" will pay the creators of a Christian rap song.

Just how pricey? More than $13,000 for a wardrobe stylist for one night. More than $3,000 for a hairdo and over $800 for a manicure. Nearly $2,000 for flashing cocktail ice cubes.

Steve Drellishak, a vice president at Universal Music Group, testified Wednesday that expenses like these are essential to the brand of Perry.

"She always has to be in the most fashionable clothes, the most fashionable makeup," said Drellishak, who is the first witness to testify after a nine-person jury found that Perry and her "Dark Horse" collaborator improperly copied elements of the 2009 song "Joyful Noise."

"She changes her look a lot," Drellishak said. "That's core to what the Katy Perry brand is."

Attorneys for the creators of "Joyful Noise," a song by plaintiff Marcus Gray who released it under the stage name "Flame," say Capitol Records received more than $31 million for the "Dark Horse" single and the album and concert DVD on which it appeared. Attorneys for both sides told the jury Tuesday that Perry herself earned $3 million, minus $600,000 in expenses.

An attorney for Capitol Records told jurors Tuesday that expenses trimmed the label's profits to roughly $650,000. Capitol Records is owned by Universal Music Group.

This April 27, 2019 file photo shows Katy Perry at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival in New Orleans. AP

### *Jury to find what Perry owes for hit they say she stole*

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Jurors are set to hear closing arguments before deciding how much Katy Perry, her collaborators and her record label owe the writers of a Christian rap song over her hit "Dark Horse."

Lawyers for Perry and for the rapper, Marcus Gray, will make their final cases to jurors on Thursday and are likely to present wildly different numbers.

Gray's attorneys have emphasized the tens of millions brought in by the song the album it's on. Perry's attorneys have emphasized the tens of millions in expenses used to make and market it.

The same jurors found on Monday that Perry and her five co-writers copied Gray's 2009 song "Joyful Noise" with 2013's "Dark Horse."

The trial has since been in a damages phase where attorneys argue how much Gray should get.

Drellishak said the huge marketing campaign for the album, manufacturing and digital transmission costs, employee salaries and artist royalties are among the expenses that have to be factored in.

The figures used by Capitol and the defense come partly from dividing the earnings of the album it was on, "Prism," by the number of tracks on the album—13 in the original edition, 16 in the deluxe edition. But plaintiff's attorneys have said that as arguably the biggest hit on the album, the share should be bigger.

Those kinds of calculations, and how more generally to separate the money surrounding a single song from the album, artist and company it comes from, could prove a challenge for jurors.

They're likely to get the case Thursday after closing arguments that are scheduled for morning.

Drellishak's testimony reflected the massive digital shift the music business has undergone in recent decades, a shift that has also given singles precedence over full albums amid the short attention spans spawned by streaming.

He said "Prism" has sold 1.2 million physical copies, but "Dark Horse" has been streamed 1.89 billion times.

"Dark Horse," a hybrid of pop, trap and hip-hop sounds that was the third single from Perry's 2013 album "Prism," spent four weeks atop the Billboard Hot 100 in early 2014. It earned Perry a Grammy Award nomination and was part of her 2015 Super Bowl halftime performance.

Jason King, a professor who specializes in pop music called by the defense testified that the success of the song was driven primarily by the enormous star power of Perry, whose previous album, "Teenage Dream," had yielded five huge hits, and that specific aspects of "Dark Horse" were relatively insignificant.

"Katy Perry had enormous celebrity brand value before the release of 'Dark Horse,'" said King, an associate professor at New York University. "That kind of celebrity can drive the success of a single, because the public is primed."

King also said that the song's marketing and Perry's devoted fan base, neither of which had anything to do with the disputed parts of the song, were also key factors in its success.

"She has a deep and intimate relationship with her fans," Key said. "She calls them Katy cats."

Perry testified early in the trial, but has not appeared since, nor have most of her co-defendants, including producer Dr. Luke. Gray has been in court every day.

While copyright infringement claims are common in music, they rarely result in such losses for high-profile artists.

A jury in 2015 returned a multimillion verdict against Robin Thicke and Pharrell over their 2013 hit "Blurred Lines." The judgment, which remains on appeal, was in favor of the children of Marvin Gaye, who sued alleging that "Blurred Lines" copied from their father's hit "Got to Give It Up."

## Organizers finally cancel troubled Woodstock 50 festival

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Woodstock 50 is officially canceled.

Organizers announced Wednesday that the troubled festival that hit a series of setbacks in the last four months won't take place next month.

The three-day festival was originally scheduled for Aug. 16-18, but holdups included permit denials and the loss of a financial partner and a production company.

Last week Jay-Z, Dead & Company and John Fogerty announced that they wouldn't perform at the event after organizers said it was moving to Maryland from New York.

"We are saddened that a series of unforeseen setbacks has made it impossible to put on the festival we imagined with the great lineup we had booked and the social engagement we were anticipating," festival co-founder Michael Lang said in a statement Wednesday. "We released all the talent so any involvement on their part would be voluntary. Due to conflicting radius issues in the DC area many acts were unable to participate and others passed for their own reasons."

Organizers said they were planning to make Woodstock 50 a free benefit concert at the Merriweather Post Pavilion in Columbia, Maryland, before announcing they had canceled the festival altogether. Lang announced the 50th anniversary event in March alongside Fogerty and rapper-actor Common, two acts that were slated to perform. Other artists who were booked for the festival included the Killers, Miley Cyrus, Imagine Dragons, Chance the Rapper, Robert Plant and The Sensational Space Shifters, David Crosby, Janelle Monae, Brandi Carlile and Halsey.

Woodstock 50 was originally supposed to take place across three main stages at Watkins Glen International racetrack in Watkins Glen, New York, about 115 miles (185 kilometers) northwest of the original site, but the venue pulled out. Tickets were supposed to go on sale on April 22, which was Earth Day, but that was postponed.

Woodstock will still celebrate its anniversary: Ringo Starr, Santana and Fogerty will perform at Woodstock's original site in Bethel, New York, in a smaller anniversary event at the Bethel Woods Center for the Arts not connected to Woodstock 50.

The original Woodstock, a festival pushing the message of peace, love and music, was a seminal, groundbreaking event in 1969 that featured performances by Jimi Hendrix, the Grateful Dead, Joan Baez, the Who and other iconic acts.

Lang is asking Woodstock 50 artists who were already paid to donate 10% of their earnings to HeadCount, a nonprofit group that registers voters at music events, or to another organization.

"Woodstock remains committed to social change and will continue to be active in support of HeadCount's critical mission to get out the vote before the next election," Lang said in his statement. "We thank the artists, fans and partners who stood by us even in the face of adversity. My thoughts turn to Bethel and its celebration of our 50th Anniversary to reinforce the values of compassion, human dignity, and the beauty of our differences embraced by Woodstock."

## CNN's Lemon doesn't back down after Trump criticism

**NEW YORK** (AP)—CNN's Don Lemon did not back down despite criticism from President Donald Trump, twice labeling presidential remarks as racist while he was moderating Wednesday's Democratic debate.

Lemon, with partners Jake Tapper and Dana Bash, presided over a session with questions designed to highlight differences between the 10 candidates onstage, most of whom eagerly took the bait.

Tuesday night's debate wasn't a ratings triumph for CNN. The Nielsen company said just under 8.7 million people watched, a sharp drop from the 15.3 million who saw opening night of the first debate on NBC News last month.

Trump used Twitter on Wednesday to attack Lemon. After insulting Lemon's intelligence, the president said the CNN anchor had insinuated that he was a racist, "when in fact I am 'the least racist person in the world.'" Trump was apparently quoting himself.

Hours after the tweet was sent, Lemon asked Colorado Sen. Michael Bennet what he would do to bridge a racial divide that "has been stoked by the president's racist rhetoric."

In another question to former Housing Secretary Julián Castro, Lemon referred to Trump's "racist tweets" about Baltimore. In an attack on Democratic Rep. Elijah Cummings last weekend, Trump had referred to Cummings' Baltimore district as a "rodent infected mess."

# Popular YouTube 'King of Random' dies in paraglider accident

**SALT LAKE CITY** (AP)—The creator of the YouTube channel "King of Random," whose experiments and hands-on science tips drew 11 million subscribers, has died in a Utah paragliding crash.

Jonathan Grant Thompson, 38, was found dead on Monday, Washington County Sheriff's Lt. David Crouse said. The cause is under investigation.

Thompson's videos have been watched more than a billion times.

They range from filling a balloon with liquid nitrogen to making a laser-assisted blowgun. Some were practical, like how to get better cell phone reception, while others were whimsical, like building a raft from rice cakes.

His most popular video was about how to make gummy candies in the shape of Legos.

Thompson made headlines last year after complaints about explosions in his suburban Salt Lake City backyard brought criminal charges. He agreed to make safety-themed videos as part of a plea deal.

His many followers are expressing their condolences, calling him a creative force on the platform whose unconventional approach sparked their interest in science.

YouTube said in a tweet that he was a "gifted, passionate and endlessly curious creator."

Thompson had been making videos since 2010.

# Mario Lopez walks back remarks on kids and gender identity

Lopez

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Mario Lopez apologized Wednesday for telling conservative commentator Candace Owens that it's "dangerous" and "alarming" for parents to honor the wishes of young children who identify with a gender other than the one assigned at birth.

"The comments I made were ignorant and insensitive, and I now have a deeper understanding of how hurtful they were," the longtime "Extra" host said in a statement released by his publicist.

"I have been and always will be an ardent supporter of the LGBTQ community, and I am going to use this opportunity to better educate myself. Moving forward I will be more informed and thoughtful," Lopez said.

He outraged many when he told Owens on her PragerU YouTube show that, like Owens, he is "blown away" when parents tolerate very young children who make gender determinations that early.

Owens asked Lopez about "weird trends" in Hollywood and mentioned that Charlize Theron recently said her 7-year-old, Jackson, did not identify as a boy. Owens described as a "new Hollywood mentality" such celebrity parents who believe their kids have the "mental authority" to choose a gender.

Lopez agreed and added: "I'm never one to tell anyone how to parent their kids, obviously, and I always say if you come from a place of love, you really can't go wrong."

He then continued:

"But at the same time, my God, if you're 3 years old and you're saying you're feeling a certain way and you think you're a boy or girl, whatever the case may be, I just think it's dangerous as a parent to make that determination then."

# Meghan launching clothing line for UK women's charity

**LONDON** (AP)—The Duchess of Sussex is launching a clothing line to support a charity that helps unemployed women find work.

Meghan said the workwear collection would provide the charity, Smart Works, with continuity. The racks of clothing and array of shoes and bags Smart Work has now come in mismatched sizes and colors, she said.

She has teamed up with designer and friend Misha Nonoo and British retailers Marks & Spencer, John Lewis & Partners and Jigsaw to create the collection.

"Many of the brands agreed to use the one-for-one model: for each item purchased by a customer, one is donated to the charity," Meghan wrote in the September issue of British Vogue, which she guest edited. "Not only does this allow us to be part of each other's story, it reminds us we are in it together."

Smart Works provides training and interview clothes for unemployed women. The charity says it has helped more than 11,000 people. Meghan has visited the organization privately since being made its patron in January.

She said Smart Works is seen wrongly as a "makeover" program that transforms a woman into a new person with donated clothes. Meghan described it in the magazine, which comes out this week, as a network of women seeing to empower other women.

"This is not a fairytale," she wrote. "If it's a cultural reference you're after, forget Cinderella —this is a story of Wonder Woman, ready to take on the world in her metaphorical and literal cape."

Designer Nonoo is the person credited with organizing the blind date that introduced Meghan and her future husband, Prince Harry.

# Judge: Smollett special prosecutor will still be appointed

AP
In this March 26, 2019, file photo, actor Jussie Smollett talks to the media before leaving Cook County Court after his charges were dropped, in Chicago.

**CHICAGO** (AP)—A judge told Jussie Smollett's attorneys he's not changing his mind about appointing a special prosecutor in the case against the actor and that he won't let another judge replace him.

Full Coverage: Jussie Smollett

The losses that Cook County Judge Michael Toomin handed the attorneys Wednesday mean Smollett may not be clear of criminal charges alleging he staged an attack in January in Chicago that he described as racist and homophobic. Prosecutors dropped the charges against him in March, but a special prosecutor could charge him again.

Smollett's attorneys have argued that Toomin should remove himself because he presumed Smollett guilty. Toomin said Wednesday that the special prosecutor's opinion will be the only one that matters.

Toomin decided in June to appoint a special prosecutor to examine the dismissal of the charges but hasn't said who it will be.

# R. Kelly judge orders lawyers not to talk about new evidence

**CHICAGO** (AP)—A federal judge in Chicago Wednesday barred attorneys from divulging new evidence in R. Kelly's child pornography case, saying he wants to ensure the celebrity case is tried in court, not in the media.

The R&B singer's attorneys objected to Judge Harry Leinenweber's protective order, complaining it would unfairly muzzle them as Kelly's accusers appeared on TV shows and documentaries characterizing the evidence.

Full Coverage: R. Kelly

"They are all giving their version of the facts. ... We should be able to respond," said one of Kelly's lawyers, Michael Leonard. "They are putting (evidence) in the public domain and tainting the jury pool."

Prosecutor Angel Krull disputed the portrayal of witnesses speaking widely in public, saying only one of five accusers spoke in the Lifetime documentary, "Surviving R. Kelly," that earlier this year helped renew interest in allegations levelled at Kelly for decades.

More generally, she said that "the vast majority of our evidence has never seen the light of day" and should be held from public scrutiny until trial.

Kelly, 52, is jailed in the case on charges that also include coercing minors to engage in sex. Marshals are transporting him to New York for a Friday arraignment on related charges, and he faces similar Illinois charges brought by Cook County prosecutors. Kelly, who didn't attend Wednesday's hearing in Chicago, has denied any wrongdoing.

Leinenweber's order isn't a gag on all public comments by lawyers. For now, they simply can't speak about evidence not yet released publicly. He told defense lawyers Wednesday that they can always come back to court and ask him for permission to speak publicly on new evidence if Kelly's accusers or their spokesmen comment on it first.

# Hospital worker is stunned by stepfather's appearance

DEAR ABBY: I saw something shocking, and I need help. While working at my job at a hospital, I saw the man my mother is married to. He was there for an appointment. He did not see me, and I didn't have the courage to approach him because he was dressed as a woman. There is no mistaking it was him.

I don't know how to even begin to handle this. He has always been wonderful, especially to my mom. I am afraid if I don't tell her, she will find out and be destroyed, and if I do tell her, the same thing will happen. What do I do?

HURT AND CONFUSED

**DEAR HURT: Talk to your mother's husband—who may be a cross-dresser or have gender identity issues—about the fact that you saw him and give him a chance to explain. Do not be surprised if he tells you your mother is aware that he dresses this way some of the time.**

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband was previously married for five years and had been widowed shortly before we met. He and his late wife had matching tattoo wedding bands. They had agreed they'd both be cremated upon their demise and that eventually they would be "reunited" by combining their ashes after his death.

My question is, what can we do to honor our marriage vows without removing the tattoo that will be respectful yet completely our own symbol of our vows? Secondly, I'm uncomfortable with the combining of their ashes. I'm 48 years old, and he is 44, so we have the potential for many more years of marriage than they had, but I do not want to completely dismiss her memory. What should I do about this?

SECOND WIFE IN THE MIDWEST

**DEAR WIFE: You could honor your wedding vows by wearing matching wedding rings. As for the "ashes" promise, talk to your husband about what his wishes currently are should he predecease you. He may have changed his mind about combining his ashes with hers—or not. If the two of you are together longer than he was with his first wife, his feelings on the subject may change.**

**DEAR ABBY:** My son got married a little over a year ago. They have a new baby. They are heavily in debt. He works full time plus a job on Saturday. She could work as a substitute teacher but prefers to stay at home with the baby.

I'm concerned about my son working so much. She brought indebtedness into this marriage. She agreed to work and now she doesn't. It doesn't seem fair to our boy. He's very kind and has a sensitive heart. Should I say something?

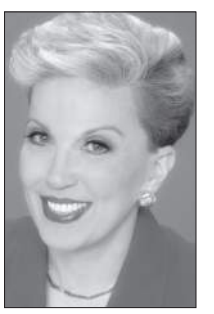
CONCERNED MOM

**DEAR CONCERNED: It may not seem fair, but do not insert yourself into this situation. Your "boy" is now an adult, and it's important that you let him speak up for himself. If you interfere—even though you are trying to help—you will come across as overbearing, which may cost you a relationship with your daughter-in-law and your grandchild.**

*Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)*

## DEAR ABBY

**By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

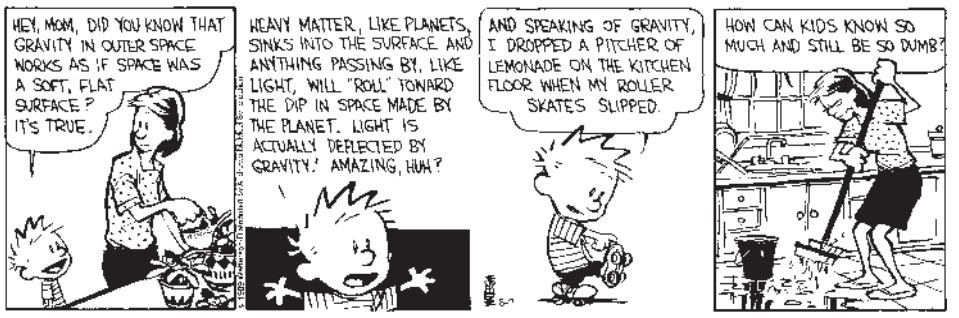


*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

# Pastimes

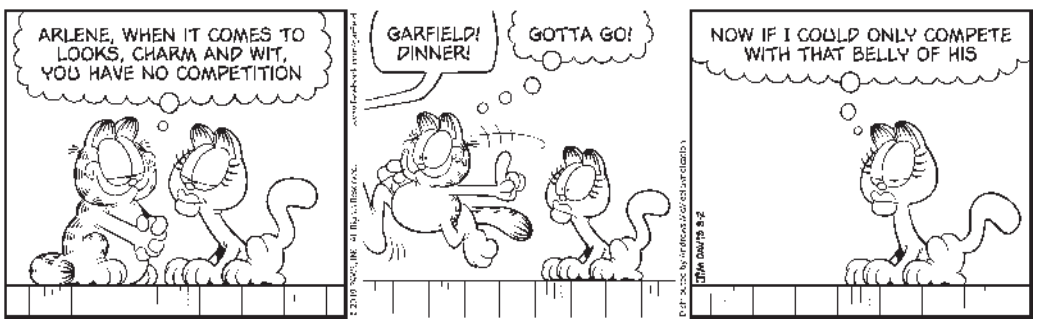
## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


HEY, MOM, DID YOU KNOW THAT GRAVITY IN OUTER SPACE WORKS AS IF SPACE WAS A SOFT, FLAT SURFACE? IT'S TRUE.
HEAVY MATTER, LIKE PLANETS, SINKS INTO THE SURFACE AND ANYTHING PASSING BY, LIKE LIGHT, WILL "ROLL" TOWARD THE DIP IN SPACE MADE BY THE PLANET. LIGHT IS ACTUALLY DEFLECTED BY GRAVITY. AMAZING, HUH?
AND SPEAKING OF GRAVITY, I DROPPED A PITCHER OF LEMONADE ON THE KITCHEN FLOOR WHEN MY ROLLER SKATES SLIPPED.
HOW CAN KIDS KNOW SO MUCH AND STILL BE SO DUMB?

## Garfield®

By Jim Davis


ARLENE, WHEN IT COMES TO LOOKS, CHARM AND WIT, YOU HAVE NO COMPETITION
GARFIELD! DINNER!
GOTTA GO!
NOW IF I COULD ONLY COMPETE WITH THAT BELLY OF HIS

## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

WHAT DID DRIPPY THE SWEATMAS POPSICLE BRING YOU, KATY?
LET'S SEE! THIS IS SO EXCITING!
OH! FLIP-FLOPS AND A BOTTLE OF BUG SPRAY!
DUMBEST THING. EVER.
OH, LOOK, CLAYTON. HE GAVE YOU A CLUMP OF GRASS CLIPPINGS.

## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

THERE'S THE ICE BUCKET CHALLENGE... THE ICE CREAM LICKING CHALLENGE. IT'S NOT FAIR.
WHAT ISN'T FAIR?
THERE'S NO "SIT ON THE COUCH DRINKING BEER ALL DAY" CHALLENGE.

## CROSSWORD

*By Eugene Sheffer*

**ACROSS**

1 Land of the Rising Sun
6 Bit of butter
9 Belief
12 Acid in proteins
13 "As I see it," to a texter
14 "Bali —"
15 — Carta
16 Metallic percussion instrument
18 Sesame paste
20 Lighten
21 Clean air org.
23 Lanka lead-in
24 Orderly grouping
25 Model in a bottle
27 Paris school
29 Brennan of "Clue"
31 "Cheers," for one
35 Unicellular critter
37 Rescue
38 Musical pace
41 Census stat
43 Levy
44 Twistable cookie
45 Begs
47 Sultry summer period
49 "Be silent," in scores
52 — Mae (Whoopi's role in "Ghost")
53 Big D.C. lobby
54 Dickens title starter
55 Capitol VIP
56 Male turkey
57 On edge

**DOWN**

1 Gridlock
2 Docs' org.
3 Braid
4 Writer Quindlen
5 — Ark
6 Outdoor meal
7 Mine, to Marcel
8 AAA job
9 "Rumor has it ..."
10 Zesty dip
11 "The Climb" singer Cyrus
17 French caps
19 Cara or Castle
21 Compass pt.
22 Greek consonant
24 "The Greatest"
26 Stir-fry veggie
28 Orange variety
30 Punk rock offshoot
32 MRI's kin
33 Eggs
34 Tex- — cuisine
36 Fragrant wood
38 Fusses
39 Wear down
40 Actress Fox
42 Really annoy
45 Arsonist
46 See socially
48 Colony member
50 Golfer Ernie
51 Casual shirt

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| G | A | R | R | | T | R | Y | | S | I | T | E |
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| H | I | N | N | | C | L | A | R | I | N | E | I |
| L | S | | | | A | I | H | | | E | M | I |
| N | E | | S | A | L | E | S | | E | T | O | N |
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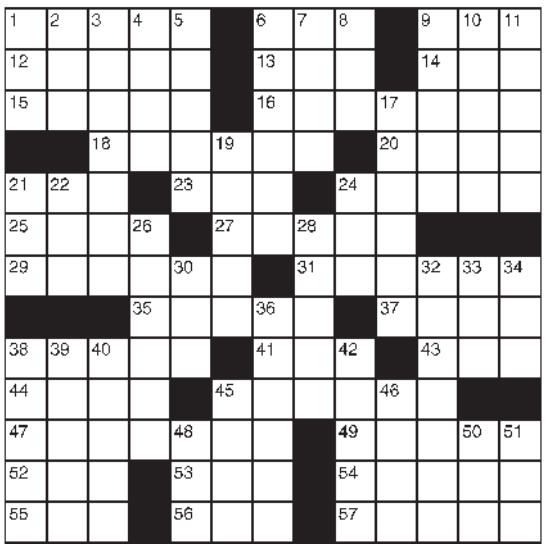
Yesterday's answer 8-2



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Hallie Eisenberg, 27; Sam Worthington, 43; Kevin Smith, 49; Mary-Louise Parker, 55.

**Happy Birthday:** Trust in facts, not in hearsay or persuasive individuals trying to manipulate you. You have everything to gain and too much to lose if you let someone interfere with your plans. Precision, detail, preparation and planning will make a difference in the outcome of whatever you strive to obtain this year. Know your strengths, and use them wisely. Your numbers are 9, 17, 21, 24, 33, 38, 49.

**ARIES** *(March 21-April 19):* You'll be offered plenty of advice, but in the end, you have to do what's best for yourself. A financial gain is within reach. Negotiating, formulating and signing contracts will lead to new possibilities. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪✪

**TAURUS** *(April 20-May 20):* Be careful with your cash and possessions; people may try to take advantage of you. Don't let your generosity get the better of you because someone offers you a compliment or preys on your weaknesses. ✪✪

**GEMINI** *(May 21-June 20):* Think big, but live within your means. Don't make a physical change without research or buy into something that sounds too good to be true. Focus on home, family and togetherness if you want to make a positive change. ✪✪✪✪

**CANCER** *(June 21-July 22):* Keep plugging away until you reach your destination. Your hard work will pay off and lead to exciting options that can change the way you earn your living as well as the way others respond to or treat you. ✪✪✪

**LEO** *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Pay close attention to the way you look, who you listen to and how you react. Don't feel pressured to follow someone else or get something you don't need or cannot afford. Focus on personal growth, love and happiness. ✪✪✪

**VIRGO** *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Check out every angle before you make a move. Having a plan in place instead of winging it will ensure you haven't overlooked a small but essential detail. A mental, physical or emotional journey will be eye-opening. ✪✪✪

**LIBRA** *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Don't feel responsible for someone else's happiness. Go about your business, make personal improvements and avoid making impulse purchases or paying for someone else's mistake. Physical fitness and proper diet should be priorities. Implement a healthy daily routine. ✪✪✪

**SCORPIO** *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Less time spent on primping and worrying about the way you look or who likes you and who doesn't, the better. Focus on intellectual improvements and picking up skills and experience that will help you get ahead. ✪✪✪✪

**SAGITTARIUS** *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Too much of anything will bring you down, not lift you up. Keep your emotions under control and your spending to a minimum. Associate with people you can count on for support and honesty. Romance is in the stars. ✪✪

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN** *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Stop being so hard on yourself; start to enjoy what you have. Don't worry about the people who oppose what you are doing. You are the one responsible for your happiness, so do what's right and best for you. ✪✪✪✪✪

**AQUARIUS** *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Look at your options, and take advantage of any opening or opportunity that becomes available. Sharing your plans with someone you love will help you decide what your best course of action will be moving forward. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪✪

**PISCES** *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Use your imagination to consider how you can make the most with the least. Taking a minimalist approach to life will help you curb any appetite. You don't have to overdo it mentally, emotionally or financially. A simple lifestyle will ease stress. ✪✪✪

**Birthday Baby:** You are affectionate, playful and demonstrative. You are progressive and changeable.

*To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.*

## SUDOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** *By Dave Green*

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 3 1 | | 5 6 | | | 2 3 |
| 6 | | 3 | | 5 | | |
| | 5 6 | | 4 | | | 1 8 |
| 9 | | 5 | | 6 | | |
| | 9 2 | | 2 1 | | | 7 5 |
| 4 | | 8 | | 3 | | |

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 8/02

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 7 |
| 2 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 4 | 3 |
| 8 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 9 |
| 1 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 4 |
| 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 7 | 6 |
| 9 | 7 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| 5 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 8 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 1 |
| 6 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 5 |

Did Today Level ★★★

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## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

CAPTURE EACH MOMENT — Solution: 7 letters

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| P | H | O | L | I | D | A | Y | S | D | N | E | I | R | F |
| E | A | S | Y | A | D | H | T | R | I | B | A | P | U | Y |
| S | C | R | A | P | B | O | O | K | S | L | I | N | F | R |
| G | C | A | E | L | D | A | O | L | B | C | N | A | W | O |
| N | E | O | P | N | F | R | E | U | T | Y | M | D | D | M |
| I | L | S | L | S | T | T | M | U | R | I | N | V | U | E |
| D | E | D | T | O | N | S | R | A | L | P | O | E | N | M |
| N | B | E | S | N | R | E | S | Y | A | A | I | N | D | A |
| U | R | R | E | I | E | R | L | N | T | R | T | T | E | G |
| O | A | U | L | N | E | M | O | T | I | E | A | U | R | A |
| R | T | T | F | V | G | R | O | A | G | M | C | R | W | Z |
| R | I | A | I | B | A | B | Y | M | I | A | A | E | A | I |
| U | O | N | E | M | L | I | F | R | D | C | V | G | T | N |
| S | N | O | I | S | A | C | C | O | G | I | C | L | E | E |
| A | S | C | E | N | E | R | Y | F | I | L | T | E | R | S |

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Adventure, Albums, Anniversary, Arts, Baby, Birthdays, Camera, Celebrations, Color, Digital, Family, Film, Filters, Flash, Format, Friends, Funny, Giclée, Holidays, Images, Lens, Load, Magazines, Memory, Moments, Nature, Occasions, Panoramic, Parents, Picture, Scenery, Scrapbooks, Selfie, Space, Surroundings, Underwater, Vacation

**Yesterday's Answer: Flowers**

**Jo's Jewels Collector's Edition** is back by popular demand. Purchase online at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480.

# CLASSIFIED ADS

## GPPC, INC.
## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(15) Maintenance Technicians $8.11 to $8.50 per hour, plus 1.5 OT, Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30am to 4:30 pm

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**
Perform work involving the skills of two or more maintenance or craft occupations to keep machines, mechanical equipment, or the structure of an establishment in repair. Duties may involve pipe fitting; boiler making; insulating; welding; machining; carpentry; repairing electrical or mechanical equipment; installing, aligning, and balancing new equipment; and repairing buildings, floors, or stairs. Inspect, operate, or test machinery or equipment to diagnose machine malfunctions. Dismantle machines, equipment, or devices to access and remove defective parts, using hoists, cranes, hand tools, or power tools. Perform routine maintenance, such as inspecting drives, motors, or belts, checking fluid levels, replacing filters, or doing other preventive maintenance actions. Diagnose mechanical problems and determine how to correct them, checking blueprints, repair manuals, or parts catalogs, as necessary.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**
- HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE;
- AT LEAST 24 MONTHS EXPERIENCE
- KNOWLEDGE IN USING HAND AND POWER TOOLS SUCH AS CORDLESS POWER DRILLS, POWER CIRCULAR SAWS AND PULLERS.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. or more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

**GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

## APEX BUILDERS, INC.
## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**ONE (1) ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN- $8.84to 9.33 per hour, plus 1.5 OT, Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm**

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Compute, classify, and record numerical data to keep financial records complete. Perform any combination of routine calculating, posting, and verifying duties to obtain primary financial data for use in maintaining accounting records. May also check the accuracy of figures, calculations, and postings pertaining to business transactions recorded by other workers. Operate computers programmed with accounting software to record, store, and analyze information. Check figures, postings, and documents for correct entry, mathematical accuracy, and proper codes. Comply with federal, state, and company policies, procedures, and regulations. Operate 10-key calculators, typewriters, and copy machines to perform calculations and produce documents. Receive, record, and bank cash, checks, and vouchers.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate or its equivalence;
- At least 24 months experience in bookkeeping, accounting or auditing clerk;
- Must be knowledgeable in operating PC, adding machine, electric typewriter, accounting software such as QuickBooks and/or PeachTree.

All interested applicants can submit resume at richel@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

**APEX BUILDERS, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

## New Wave Dental

is looking to hire
(one) 1 employee to work as
**Dental Assistant**
$12.50 to 15.50 an hour

- Minimum 3 years clinical experience required
- Must be able to assist dentist, know sterilization, set up instruments and take radiographs
- Employer not able to train individuals lacking the necessary skills for this position
- US citizen preferred

Drop your resume in person to our office in Microbeach road, Garapan Saipan or send your resume or Cv via email to mikehallds@hotmail.com.

## Dental Solutions

is looking to hire
(one) 1 employee to work as
**Insurance Claims Clerk**
$12.50 to 15.50 per hour

- Must have 3 years experience in submitting dental insurance claim and familiar in specific dental coding for billing.
- U.S citizen preferred
- Employer not able to train for this position lacking necessary skills.

Drop resume in person to Microbeach Road, Garapan Saipan MP 96950 or send your resume or CV via email to mikehallds@hotmail.com.

## GPPC, INC.
## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(5) ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN - $8.84 to 14.42 per hour, plus 1.5 OT, Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**
Compute, classify, and record numerical data to keep financial records complete. Perform any combination of routine calculating, posting, and verifying duties to obtain primary financial data for use in maintaining accounting records. May also check the accuracy of figures, calculations, and postings pertaining to business transactions recorded by other workers. Operate computers programmed with accounting software to record, store, and analyze information. Check figures, postings, and documents for correct entry, mathematical accuracy, and proper codes. Comply with federal, state, and company policies, procedures, and regulations. Operate 10-key calculators, typewriters, and copy machines to perform calculations and produce documents. Receive, record, and bank cash, checks, and vouchers.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**
- High School Graduate or its equivalence;
- At least 24 months experience in bookkeeping, accounting or auditing clerk; &
- Must be knowledgeable in operating PC, adding machine, electric typewriter, accounting software such as QuickBooks and/or PeachTree.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

**GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

## GPPC, INC.
## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

06 Electricians -$8.78-8.78 per hour, plus 1.5 OT, Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30am to 4:30 pm

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**
Install, maintain, and repair electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures. Ensure that work is in accordance with relevant codes. May install or service street lights, intercom systems, or electrical control systems. Plan layout and installation of electrical wiring, equipment, or fixtures, based on job specifications and local codes. Connect wires to circuit breakers, transformers, or other components. Test electrical systems or continuity of circuits in electrical wiring, equipment, or fixtures, using testing devices, such as ohmmeters, voltmeters, or oscilloscopes, to ensure compatibility and safety of system. Use a variety of tools or equipment, such as power construction equipment, measuring devices, power tools, and testing equipment, such as oscilloscopes, ammeters, or test lamps. Inspect electrical systems, equipment, or components to identify hazards, defects, or the need for adjustment or repair, and to ensure compliance with codes.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**
- HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE;
- AT LEAST 24 MONTHS EXPERIENCE
- KNOWLEDGE IN USING MEASURING DEVICES, POWER TOOLS AND TESTING EQUIPMENT SUCH AS OHMMETERS, VOLTMETERS, OSCILLOSCOPES, AMMETERS, OR TEST LAMPS.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

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## GPPC, INC.
## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(15) H. E. Mechanics $8.14 to $9.00 per hour, plus 1.5 OT, Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30am to 4:30 pm

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**
Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul mobile mechanical, hydraulic, and pneumatic equipment, such as cranes, bulldozers, graders, and conveyors, used in construction, logging, and surface mining. Repair and replace damaged or worn parts. Test mechanical products and equipment after repair or assembly to ensure proper performance and compliance with manufacturers' specifications. Operate and inspect machines or heavy equipment to diagnose defects. Read and understand operating manuals, blueprints, and technical drawings. Dismantle and reassemble heavy equipment using hoists and hand tools.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**
- HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE;
- AT LEAST 24 MONTHS EXPERIENCE
- KNOWLEDGE IN HOIST, HAND TOOLS AND TESTERS.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

**GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

## KOREA TOURISM INC
## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**(2) TRAVEL AGENT**
**JOB DUTIES**
Plan and sell transportation and accommodations for travel agency customers, determine destination modes of transportation, travel dates, costs and accommodations required, may also described plan and arrange itineraries and sell tour packages, may assist in resolving clients travel problems.

**REQUIREMENTS:**
- Must be high school graduate
- With one-year work experience as travel agent
- With computer skills required
- Korean Speaking required

**Salary:** 14.84/hr
This job opportunity is a temporary full-time position

**(1) TOUR GUIDE**
**JOB DUTIES**
Describe tour points of interest to group members, and respond to questions, escort individuals, or groups to cruises, sightseeing tours or thru places of interest such as individual establishments, public buildings, and art galleries, conduct education activities for school for school children, monitor visitors activities, to ensure compliance with establishment or tour regulations and safety practices, provide directions and other pertinent information to visitors.

**REQUIREMENTS:**
- Must be high school graduate
- With at least 6 months' work experience as tour guide
- With customer service-oriented person
- With good moral character
- Able to read and speak in Korean language

**Salary:** 9.23/hr

This job opportunity is a temporary full-time position

Interested Applicants can email their resume to susupe302@gmail.com
Or fax to 233-3005 or can call office number 233-3001 for more information
From Monday to Friday between the hours of 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

## GPPC, INC.
## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(01) Truck Driver 8.00 to 8.35 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30am to 4:30 pm

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**
Drive a tractor-trailer combination or a truck with a capacity of at least 26,000 pounds Gross Drive a tractor-trailer combination or a truck with a capacity of at least 26,000 pounds Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW). May be required to unload truck. Requires commercial drivers' license. Check vehicles to ensure that mechanical, safety, and emergency equipment is in good working order. Follow appropriate safety procedures for transporting dangerous goods. Inspect loads to ensure that cargo is secure. Maintain logs of working hours or of vehicle service or repair status, following applicable state and federal regulations. Secure cargo for transport, using ropes, blocks, chain, binders, or covers. Vehicle Weight (GVW). May be required to unload truck. Requires commercial drivers' license. Check vehicles to ensure that mechanical, safety, and emergency equipment is in good working order. Follow appropriate safety procedures for transporting dangerous goods. Inspect loads to ensure that cargo is secure. Maintain logs of working hours or of vehicle service or repair status, following applicable state and federal regulations. Secure cargo for transport, using ropes, blocks, chain, binders, or covers.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**
- High School Graduate
- At least 12 months experience
- Should possess a CNMI, Driver's License

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

**GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

## SAMS' SONS, INC.
## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**(1) OPERATION MANAGER**
**DUTIES:**
- Use knowledge of law enforcement products, firearms, sporting goods, uniforms, collectible card games, insignia, board games and hobby supplies, and other specialized product categories to recommend, quote, and sell to agency and individual customers through both retail and government channels.
- Independently operate all aspects of a retail store operation to include corporate and business filings, sales and logistics.
- The position includes supervisory duties.
- Execute duties by satisfactorily operating office equipment, computer hardware and software, and personal motor vehicles.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:**
- High School Graduate / GED
- 48 Months of relevant work experience to include supervisory experience
- Thorough understanding of CNMI Procurement, Law Enforcement Products, Hobby Supplies, Logistics, and Retail Store Operations
- Can lift and carry 70 lbs
- Self-managing with a proven history of integrity and self-motivation

**SALARY:** $17.23/hr

This job opportunity is a temporary full-time position. Interested applicants can email their resume to ming@pacifictacticalsupply.com or call the office number 670-234-1425 for more information Monday through Friday between the hours of 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM. This an abbreviated advertisement; please contact for full job description, duties, and requirements.

## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**The Position: 1 MASSAGE THERAPIST**

**Job Description:** Massage and knead muscles and soft tissues of the body to provide treatment for medical conditions, injuries, or wellness maintenance; Confer with clients about their medical histories and problems with stress or pain to determine how massage will be most helpful; Apply finger and hand pressure to specific points of the body; Maintain treatment records; Assess clients' soft tissue condition, joint quality and function, muscle strength, and range of motion; Treat clients in professional settings or travel to clients' offices and homes; Provide clients with guidance and information about techniques for postural improvement and stretching, strengthening, relaxation, and rehabilitative exercises; Develop and propose client treatment plans that specify which types of massage are to be used; Refer clients to other types of therapists when necessary; Consult with other health care professionals, such as physiotherapists, chiropractors, physicians, and psychologists, to develop treatment plans for clients; Perform other adjunctive therapies or treatment techniques in addition to massage; Prepare and blend oils and apply the blends to clients' skin.

**Minimum Qualifications:** Must have at least 24 months of relevant work experience as a Massage or Physical Therapist.

**Job Site:** 2nd floor, Coco Building, Rte 319, Derence Jack Rd., Garapan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

**How to Apply:** Submit or mail application, Resume and credentials to:

**THOMAS T. CHONG**
**Manager**
**American K&W Corporation**
**(Aroma Salon Kasumi)**

**Office Address:** 1st Floor, Coco Building, Rte 319, Derence Jack Rd., Garapan, Saipan, CNMI

**Mailing Address:** PMB 978, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

**Email Address:** kasumi1819@gmail.com

**Telephone Number:** (670) 233-9468

**MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST**

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 12, The Open Government Act of 1992, the Marianas Public Land Trust has scheduled a MPLT Trustees Special Meeting to be held on Wednesday, August 7, 2019 beginning at 3:00 p.m. at the MPLT conference room, building 1222 Capital Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

The following agenda is hereby established:

**I PRELIMINARIES**
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda

**II ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT –** *none*
**III CONSULTANT'S REPORTS-** *none*
**IV LEGAL COUNSEL –** *none*
**V OLD BUSINESS –** *none*
- Governor's Line of Credit Request

**VI COMMUNICATIONS -** *none*
**VII NEW BUSINESS**
**VIII MISCELLANEOUS -***none*
**IX ADJOURNMENT**

*At any time during this scheduled meeting, the Board of Trustees may be required to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential.*

In accordance with Public Law 8-41, additional agenda items may be added to the above listing only by the recorded vote of the majority of the trustee governing body. All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written and oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ Martin B. Ada
Chairman, MPLT Trustees

WHATZIT Solution: White tie and tails

**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

Are you tired of high priced cable TV? How about free? Ask me how! Plus, offers a very lucrative pay plan. We are international. http:infiniteincome.net. Questions, call Dixie 214 735 3727.

**VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

**(1) Graphic Designer/Artist** – Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts. Minimum of 1 yr. experience as Graphic Designer/Artist.

**Submit Applications To:**
**Saipan Apparel Printing, LLC.**
**Ground Floor, Afetna Building, San Antonio Village, Saipan, MP 96950**
**Tel.# 235-1680**

## RATES AND POLICIES

*Saipan Tribune's* Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

### CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

*Saipan Tribune* also offers a complete 5-day run of liner ads, for as low as $15 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

**ADS**
- 3-Liner **$15**
- 5-Liner **$24**

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**Classified Ads**

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

### CANCELLATION

**Classified Ads**

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

### REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

### CHECK YOUR ADS

*Saipan Tribune* will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

### ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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TAIL TALE
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Find today's solution in classified section

# All Aces: Astros get Greinke in trade with D-backs

Out of nowhere, the Houston Astros got a huge head start on October.

On a dizzying day that featured two dozen trades, the Astros pulled off the biggest and most startling deal, adding ace Zack Greinke to an imposing rotation already loaded with All-Stars Justin Verlander and Gerrit Cole.

Plenty of familiar names were on the go Wednesday—Shane Greene and Mark Melancon boosted the Braves' bullpen, with Scooter Gennett, Jesús Aguilar, Mike Leake and Tanner Roark among those also moving.

But it was the Astros' acquisition of Greinke from Arizona for four minor leaguers that quickly became the talk of baseball. The deal came right before the deadline for swapping players to still have them eligible for the postseason.

"We had him high on our list and we didn't know this was even remotely possible and it really wasn't until the last 48 hours and really the last 24 hours that we started to get traction on something," Houston general manager Jeff Luhnow said.

The AL West leaders and 2017 World Series champions added two other pitchers, too, getting starter Aaron Sanchez and reliever Joe Biagini from Toronto.

"Houston made some big deals. They're really good. They were good before," Red Sox President of Baseball Operations Dave Dombrowski said.

AP

Arizona Diamondbacks' Zack Greinke delivers a pitch during the first inning of a baseball game against the New York Yankees Wednesday, July 31, 2019, in New York.

A lot of contenders were busy.

The Chicago Cubs added Detroit's Nicholas Castellanos to their lineup, the Phillies got outfielder Corey Dickerson from Pittsburgh and the Washington Nationals acquired relievers Daniel Hudson, Roenis Elías and Hunter Strickland.

In most cases, major leaguers were swapped for minor leaguers.

"When it comes to trades, one thing I've learned is, just wait," Cubs manager Joe Maddon said. "You've got to wait until the very end and it plays itself out. The 11th hour is the most powerful hour there is. To get things done before that, it normally doesn't work to get what you want. There's the 11th hour at work."

Several players whose names swirled in the tradewinds stayed put.

Giants ace Madison Bumgarner, Mets starters Noah Syndergaard and Zack Wheeler and Pirates closer Felipe Vázquez remained in place. So did Mets closer Edwin Díaz and Texas starter Mike Minor.

"Nothing changed for me. I never expected to be somewhere else until that happened," Bumgarner said. "I just have a job to do and I'm going to do it. We're going to miss a few guys we got rid of. That's going to be tough."

Major League Baseball made July 31 a hard deadline this year for trades. Now, no deals can be made until after the World Series.

"This was a unique deadline, it felt," said Yankees general manager Brian Cashman, whose AL East-leading team didn't make any significant moves.

Pitchers Marcus Stroman, Andrew Cashner, Homer Bailey and Jason Vargas were among the players who were traded in recent weeks.

And on Tuesday night, the Cleveland Indians agreed to send pitcher Trevor Bauer to Cincinnati in a three-team swap that brought back outfielder Yasiel Puig. That trade became official Wednesday, setting off a full morning and afternoon of swaps.

Wheeler heard the speculation involving him.

"It's almost happened several times and never did. I'm happy to be here and I'm concentrating on producing and doing well here," he said. "It was all there for it to happen and just didn't. I was ready for it, especially with me being a free agent after the season."

Atlanta concentrated its effort on padding its bullpen.

A day after getting reliever Chris Martin from Texas, the Braves got Greene from Detroit and Melancon from the Giants.

"We engaged everything—position players, starting pitchers, the bullpen—right up until the end," general manager Alex Anthopoulos said. "At the end of the day, where we thought there were deals that made sense for us and what we had to give up and so on, the bullpen made the most sense. But we definitely tried some other areas. We just couldn't wind up with a deal that made sense to our organization."

The 30-year-old Greene has 22 saves and 1.18 ERA and was an All-Star this season. He's likely to take over the closer's role—Luke Jackson had been the latest to try it for the Braves, and was just 17 for 25 in save chances.

"They're excited, I'm excited," Greene said in Anaheim, where the Tigers played the Los Angeles Angels. "I'm starting a new chapter and going to a contender."

At Yankee Stadium, Greinke had been pulled after five innings because of a rain delay and was watching video of his start when manager Torey Lovullo interrupted —GM Mike Hazen wanted to break the news.

Hazen said the trade was finished in a hurry, in the final 20 minutes before the 4 p.m. deadline. Soon, word reached Progressive Field in Cleveland, where Houston was preparing to play the Indians.

Cole said the Astros did "a lot of hooting and hollering" about "getting a Hall of Fame pitcher, a craftsman."

"We are just really shocked and ecstatic," Cole said.

# *Donaldson homers in 10th, lifts Braves over Nats*

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Josh Donaldson homered against Sean Doolittle in the top of the 10th, and the Atlanta Braves pulled out a 5-4 victory over the Washington Nationals on Wednesday to take two of three in the series and pad their NL East lead to 6 1/2 games.

After the Nationals scored twice in the bottom of the ninth to tie the game, Donaldson swatted a fastball from Doolittle over the center-field wall for his 25th homer of the season.

### Indians 10, Astros 4

In Cleveland, Roberto Pérez homered twice, Carlos Santana and Jason Kipnis each hit a three-run shot and the Indians capped a power-packed day with a win over Houston.

Perez hit a three-run homer in the second inning off rookie José Urquidy (1-1) and a solo shot in the sixth as the Indians stayed on Minnesota's heels in the AL Central.

Santana connected for his 23rd homer in the fifth and Kipnis hit his ninth in the sixth.

### Reds 4, Pirates 1

In Cincinnati, Clint Hurdle and David Bell had little interaction while exchanging lineup cards one day after their teams fought on the field, and the two teams were on good behavior during the Reds' victory over Pittsburgh behind a strong outing from Luis Castillo.

Castillo (10-4) gave up six hits and a run over seven innings. Jesse Winker and Eugenio Suarez homered off rookie Dario Agrazal (2-2).

### Cubs 2, Cardinals 0

In St. Louis, Kyle Hendricks struck out seven in seven innings and Ian Happ hit an RBI single in the sixth inning to break a scoreless tie as Chicago beat the Cardinals and moved into a tie with the Cardinals atop the NL Central.

The teams have identical 57-50 records.

### Rangers 9, Mariners 7

In Arlington, All-Star lefty Mike Minor won for the first time in more than a month, Shin-Soo Choo hit a solo homer and Texas beat Seattle.

Minor trailed 5-3 when he left after the top of the fifth, but Willie Calhoun's three-run homer in the bottom of the inning put the Rangers in front before they went to the bullpen.

### Dodgers 5, Rockies 1

In Denver, Will Smith hit a three-run home run in the ninth inning to break open a scoreless game and lead Los Angeles over Colorado.

Kristopher Negrón also went deep during the rally and Alex Verdugo had four hits. Joe Kelly (5-3) pitched the eighth inning to earn the win.

### Blue Jays 4, Royals 1

In Kansas City, Freddy Galvis and rookie Bo Bichette hit solo home runs as Toronto completed a three-game sweep over the Royals.

Bichette hit his first career homer to open the eighth against Royals starter Jakob Junis. Galvis cleared the center field wall with his 16th to open the seventh.

### Rays 8, Red Sox 5

In Boston, Kevin Kiermaier homered on the first pitch he saw after coming off the injured list, and Austin Meadows hit a three-run shot to lead Tampa Bay over the Red Sox.

The Rays jumped to a 5-0 lead against Boston starter Rick Porcello (9-8).

### Tigers 9, Angels 1

In Anaheim, Jake Rogers, Brandon Dixon and Gordon Beckham went deep, Daniel Norris picked up his first win since May 12 and Detroit swept the three-game series.

Rogers opened the scoring in the third with his first big league homer.

### Twins 7, Marlins 4

In Miami, Jose Berrios struck out a season-high 11 in seven innings and Minnesota hit three homers in a win over the Marlins.

Max Kepler hit his 29th homer of the season, Mitch Garver added a three-run shot and Eddie Rosario had a two-run home run.

### Giants 5, Phillies 1

In Philadelphia, Jeff Samardzija tossed three-hit ball over six scoreless innings, Buster Posey, Pablo Sandoval and Kevin Pillar homered in a five-run fifth and shorthanded San Francisco beat the Phillies.

### Mets 4, White Sox 2

In Chicago, Todd Frazier hit a tiebreaking single in the ninth inning, Michael Conforto added a two-run single and New York beat the White Sox for its season-best sixth straight victory.

Mets ace Jacob deGrom struck out 11 in a tight pitching duel with Lucas Giolito.

### Yankees 7, Diamondbacks 5

In New York, Austin Romine hit a go-ahead, two-run homer in the seventh inning and New York beat Arizona.

Adam Ottavino (4-3) got the win with a scoreless inning.

# Kidd, Hollins top Vogel's coaching staff

**EL SEGUNDO, Calif.** (AP)—Former NBA head coaches Jason Kidd and Lionel Hollins have joined new coach Frank Vogel's staff with the Los Angeles Lakers.

The Lakers formally announced Vogel's full coaching staff Wednesday.

Phil Handy, Miles Simon, former Lakers guard Mike Penberthy and Quinton Crawford also will be Vogel's assistant coaches. Simon is the only holdover from former coach Luke Walton's staff.

Kidd joins the Lakers after head coaching stints in Brooklyn and Milwaukee. The Hall of Fame point guard was fired by the Bucks in January 2018.

Hollins spent four seasons with Memphis and two more with the Nets, who fired him in January 2016.

The Lakers also hired Greg St. Jean, Dru Anthrop and Jon Pastorek as player development coaches with additional responsibilities.

Meanwhile, Vogel said he's not worried about Kidd undermining him.

What about the other potential landmine in Los Angeles—LeBron James, who's notoriously tricky to coach?

"I did feel support right from the start from LeBron," Vogel said. "He's always shown me a great deal of respect dating back to our battles when I was in Indiana and competing with the Heat in the conference finals, and coaching him in the All-Star Game. He's always shown me a great deal of respect, so I felt like there would be a lot of support, and there was immediately and that's continued on through up to this point. Hopefully we can work together to build something special."

Since establishing himself as a superstar, LeBron has clashed with all his coaches – Mike Brown, Erik Spoelstra, David Blatt, Tyronn Lue and Luke Walton. It won't help Vogel that the coach LeBron seemingly meshed best with was Lue, whom the Lakers could've hired.

Vogel should expect rough patches with LeBron. LeBron is smart enough to have his own good ideas about how to run the team. He'll sometimes run roughshod over his coach. He'll sometimes passive-aggressively try to get his way. But he won't automatically follow his coach because that's the traditional power structure. LeBron has the power.

Vogel's model should be Spoelstra. Though LeBron was initially skeptical, Spoelstra won LeBron over by coaching well. That took years, and there's a lot of pressure on the Lakers this season. It won't be easy.

But that's the job Vogel signed up for.

AP

In this Jan. 8, 2018, file photo, then-Milwaukee Bucks head coach Jason Kidd gestures during the second half of an NBA basketball game against the Indiana Pacers, in Indianapolis.

## Woods will play first two events of FedEx Playoffs

**NEW JERSEY**—Tiger Woods broke tradition from his usual late-Friday tournament commitments and tweeted Wednesday that he'll be in action for the first two FedEx Cup Playoff events, beginning at next week's Northern Trust

Woods skipped the WGC-FedEx St. Jude Invitational in Memphis after missing the British Open cut at Royal Portrush, saying he wanted to go home and rest before preparing for another postseason push.

Woods has played 10 official tournaments this season and only one non-major since his Masters victory in April. That's keeping in line with a plan he outlined last year, playing fewer tournaments in order to preserve his health.

He pushed it hard in the FedEx Cup Playoffs last season, teeing it up in all three events ahead of his comeback victory at the Tour Championship in Atlanta. Woods finished T-40 at the 2018 Northern Trust before a T-24 at the Dell Technologies Championship and a T-6 at the BMW Championship.

There's one fewer playoff event this season due to the new schedule, so it's on to Atlanta after the BMW Championship in two weeks at Medinah Country Club in Chicago.

### Players push for Top 10, Top 125

The focus at the Wyndham Championship is usually on the players trying to qualify for the PGA Tour's first playoff tournament.

Now there's more reason to pay attention to those near the top of the points list.

The tour's final regular-season event begins Thursday, and as usual there once again will be plenty of bubble players trying to force their way into the Top 125 and qualify for The Northern Trust. It's followed by the BMW Championship in suburban Chicago, then the Tour Championship in Atlanta.

But for the first time, there's some added motivation for those near the top of the standings: The new Wyndham Rewards Top 10 program pays out $10 million in bonuses to the Top 10 players in the regular season.

"For me, it's a busy part of the year, but I really wanted to come here, whether or not Wyndham Rewards," said Paul Casey, who's at No. 8 on the points list. "That's just, I guess, the extra kind of incentive this week for me, try and move up a couple of spots if I can."

While the top three spots have already been locked up, $5.3 million in bonus money remains up for grabs this week at par-70 Sedgefield Country Club.

As a result, 10 of the Top 32 players are in the field, led by Casey and No. 13 Webb Simpson. Nine of them have a shot at moving into the Top 10 and claiming some of that cash with a win.

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# FIFA expands Women's World Cup to 32 for 2023

AP
United States' Megan Rapinoe, center, is challenged by France's Marion Torrent, left, and Kadidiatou Diani during the Women's World Cup quarterfinal soccer match at the Parc des Princes, in Paris, Friday, June 28, 2019.

**SWITZERLAND** (AP)—FIFA's Council has unanimously approved expanding the Women's World Cup from 24 teams to 32 for 2023 and has reopened bidding to host the tournament but made no mention of changing prize money.

FIFA said Wednesday the decision was made remotely.

Nine national associations had expressed interest in hosting and were due to submit their formal bids by Oct. 4: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Japan, New Zealand, South Africa and South Korea, which could bid jointly with North Korea

Under the new timetable, any national association has until December to make a bid. FIFA expects a bid evaluation report next April and a decision the following month.

FIFA's statement made no mention of prize money. The U.S. received $4 million of a $30 million prize pool for winning the World Cup on July 7, a small percentage of the $38 million from a $400 million pool that France got for winning the 2018 men's World Cup. FIFA has increased prize money for the 2022 men's World Cup to $440 million and FIFA President Gianni Infantino said July 5 that he was proposing FIFA double the women's prize money to $60 million for 2023.

After the U.S. won the women's final in Lyon, France, fans in the stadium chanted "Equal Pay!"

Infantino said in a statement that "this is the time to keep the momentum going and take concrete steps to foster the growth of women's football" and "it means that, from now on, dozens more member associations will organize their women's football program knowing they have a realistic chance of qualifying."

"We have a duty to do the groundwork and strengthen women's football development infrastructure across all confederations," he said.

The Women's World Cup started with 12 teams in 1991, expanded to 16 in 1999 and 24 in 2015.

The men's World Cup was played with 13-16 teams from 1930-78, 24 from 1982-94 and has been contested with 32 since. It is due to expand to 48 in 2026, when the tournament is co-hosted by the United States, Mexico and Canada.

Infantino also has proposed a Women's Club World Cup and creating a women's world league. FIFA is also doubling the funding being made available to women's soccer in the next four-year cycle to $1 billion.

## Ronaldo, Messi, and Rapinoe nominated

Five-time winners Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi were among the 10 candidates for the FIFA best player award announced Wednesday. United States forward Megan Rapinoe is the favorite for the women's award.

Ronaldo and Messi were joined by three Liverpool players, Mohamed Salah, Virgil van Dijk and Sadio Mane. Liverpool won the Champions League title in June.

Also in the list were Ajax players Frenkie de Jong and Matthijs de Ligt, who have since joined Barcelona and Juventus, respectively, along with former Chelsea forward Eden Hazard, who has joined Real Madrid, Tottenham striker Harry Kane and Paris Saint-Germain striker Kylian Mbappe.

Luka Modric, who won the award last year after leading Croatia to the World Cup final, was not on the list.

Rapinoe was in a list of 12 players that included teammates Alex Morgan, Rose Lavelle and Julie Ertz. Ada Hegerberg, a Norway forward who won the Ballon d'Or but skipped this year's World Cup, was also nominated.

Liverpool coach Jürgen Klopp was nominated for best coach along with Premier League rivals Pep Guardiola of Manchester City and Mauricio Pochettino of Tottenham.

United States coach Jill Ellis, who won back-to-back World Cup titles before stepping down after more than five years in charge, was nominated for the award for the best coach in women's soccer.

Three finalists in each category - best male player, best female player, best coach in men's soccer and best coach in women's soccer - will be announced before the ceremony in Milan on Sept. 23.

The winners will be voted by national team coaches and captains, selected media and online fan voting.

# US in flux: Ellis leaves, GM coming soon, and Olympics looms

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Fresh off of a repeat performance as World Cup champions, the U.S. women's national team finds itself in flux.

On Tuesday, Jill Ellis announced she was stepping down after more than five years as the team's head coach. Under Ellis, the United States won eight total tournaments, including two World Cups, and lost just seven games.

Meanwhile, U.S. Soccer is in the process of naming the team's new general manager, who will report to President Carlos Cordeiro and chief executive officer Dan Flynn. The GM, expected to be appointed soon, will lead the search for a new coach.

Ellis, the national team's third female coach, hopes it will be another woman.

"I think there are a lot of qualified females. You also hope by doing it people have trust a female can do this," she said. "People have seen it and people potentially want to aspire to coach, not just soccer but whatever sport. You really hope that is part of the legacy you leave behind."

Once named, the new coach will be taxed quickly with preparing the team for Olympic qualifying and next summer's Tokyo Games. Ellis said she'd be there for her successor: "I want whoever comes next to know that there will be that support."

Hanging over all of the immediate uncertainty is the legal dispute between the women's team and U.S. soccer. The players filed a federal lawsuit last March accusing the federation of gender discrimination in matters including pay.

The lawsuit capped a long-simmering dispute between the federation and the players, who claim they deserve to make as much as their counterparts on the men's national team.

The two sides have agreed to mediation now that the World Cup is over.

Ellis steps away after winning back-to-back titles in soccer's premier global tournament. Her contract was set to expire following the World Cup, and she said Tuesday she started to think months ago about leaving following the event in France.

She'll stay with the team through its five-game victory tour, which starts Saturday against Ireland at the Rose Bowl. After that, she'll serve as an ambassador for U.S. Soccer for at least a year.

Ellis said she wants to spend more time with her family.

"The timing of this is good. Not only on a personal level but also for the program in terms of preparing to start a new cycle," she said. "It's obviously been a fantastic run and fantastic ride. I'm going to enjoy these last few games."

The top-ranked U.S. team has been dominant throughout Ellis' tenure. The team went undefeated in the 2015 World Cup in Canada en route to a 5-2 victory over Japan in the title match. The United States gave up just three goals over the course of the tournament.

Earlier this month, the U.S. defeated the Netherlands 2-0 in Lyon, France, to claim its second straight championship—pulling off challenging knockout victories over No. 4 France and No. 3 England. The Americans never trailed at the tournament and set records with 26 goals and a 12-game World Cup winning streak dating to 2015. Ellis became the first coach to lead a team to two Women's World Cup titles.

But there were also moments of disappointment. The defending champions were knocked out in the quarterfinals in the 2016 Brazil Olympics by Sweden, the team's earliest departure ever in the tournament. Afterward, there was some grumbling behind the scenes as Ellis shifted players and experimented with tactics.

Overall, Ellis led the team in 127 matches with 102 wins. She coached the team for more games than any of her seven predecessors.

Ellis became head coach in 2014, promoted after taking over on an interim basis following the dismissal of Tom Sermanni. She also served as interim coach after Pia Sundhage resigned in 2012.

She was an assistant to both and was on the staff of the gold medal-winning teams at the Beijing and London Olympics. She also served as head coach at UCLA for 12 seasons.

"This is not a job that someone sits in for 10 years," Ellis said. "Change is good. A position like this should not be forever."

On the same day that Ellis announced her resignation, Sundhage was introduced as the new head coach of the Brazilian women's team. Asked about some of the changes she plans to implement, Sundhage said Brazil needs "an American mentality" and "Swedish organization" to win more.

Ellis hasn't decided on her next move. Her decision to leave wasn't entirely unexpected, although many thought she'd stay on through the Olympics.

"I just need to take a step back and take it all in and see what next intrigues me and piques my interest," she said.

The United States is set to play Portugal on Aug. 29 in Philadelphia, and on Sept. 3 in St. Paul, Minnesota. The final two matches of the victory tour, set for early October, have not yet been announced.

# New look, new leadership style for Browns' Mayfield

**BEREA, Ohio** (AP) — Baker Mayfield didn't hesitate to answer when asked what areas of his game he wanted to improve.

When the subject switched to his modified facial hair, he was far less revealing.

"That's the elegance of having a mustache," Mayfield said, unable to suppress a smile. "Maybe you'll find out why I got rid of the goatee, maybe you won't. That's the great thing about having a mustache. It's always a mystery."

The second-year quarterback reveled being the center of attention Wednesday at the Cleveland Browns' training camp, unveiling an array of situational plays designed by coach Freddie Kitchens and offensive coordinator Todd Monken.

Mayfield was especially animated when his unit failed to convert simulated late-game scenarios, loudly calling out teammates while displaying the leadership that Cleveland envisioned when it made him the No. 1 overall draft pick.

"Baker is leading in his way and that's all he can do," starting left tackle Greg Robinson said. "I didn't know him from a can of paint last year, but there are some guys you can bond with and Baker is one of them. He's open and he's really friendly.

"When you get through one year, you're more talkative and have a little more fun with it."

The Oklahoma product and 2017 Heisman Trophy winner has been sharp-tongued toward his wide receivers over the first six practices, addressing Pro Bowl players like Odell Beckham Jr. and Jarvis Landry in the same manner as undrafted free agents.

Mayfield offered no apology for pointing out their mistakes in front of fans — often using adult language — because he follows up the outbursts with calm, measured conversations in the locker room.

AP

Cleveland Browns' Baker Mayfield (6) throws a pass during an NFL football organized team activity session at the team's training facility Wednesday, May 22, 2019, in Berea, Ohio.

"I'm not a (jerk), you've got to talk through it," said Mayfield, who set an NFL rookie record with 27 touchdown passes and won six games after taking the job from Tyrod Taylor in Week 3. "It's nothing personal in getting after somebody. I hope they all hold me accountable, too.

"We need to be over communicating right now in practice because you're not going to get two-minute drills where you have to score in the preseason."

Kitchens has instructed his coordinators to treat 11-on-11 sets like a laboratory, experimenting with concepts that might not be used when the games count. He wants Mayfield to be uncomfortable improvising now and calm later.

"We're creating an environment where it's reactionary," Kitchens said. "It's about continuing to put the quarterback in a situation to decipher, then react accordingly. You may be planning on one thing, but teams may do something totally different. It can't be a wasted play."

Robinson said adjusting to numerous defensive schemes is challenging for linemen, but he noted that Mayfield's running ability gives them some room for error.

"In a perfect world, you want him to stay in the pocket to make throws," he said. "But if you do screw up or take a bad step, you do have that mobile quarterback who can slip out and keep the play going."

The 6-foot-1, 215-pounder had 131 yards rushing last year and said he enjoys scrambling out of heavy pressure. Yet he also stressed that his primary objective is consistency, not leading the league in highlight-reel plays.

For the Browns to take the next step and make the playoffs after a 7-8-1 season, Mayfield knows he must reduce his 14 interceptions, seven fumbles and 25 sacks from 2018.

"I want to make fewer turnovers, put us in better position to score more often, less negative plays, definitely less sacks," he said. "Just really commanding the offense and putting us in the best spot to win. More wins, though, is the best individual goal I can have."

## Lawsuit over Saints-Rams missed call dismissed

The last of three federal lawsuits filed over the missed pass interference call in the NFC Championship game between the Los Angeles Rams and New Orleans Saints has been dismissed.

According to the Associated Press, U.S. District Judge Susie Morgan rejected the arguments of the fans that had filed the suit saying they are entitled to damage payments. The suit had sought the payments by contending a legal promise had been broken that the game would be played fairly.

## NMA'S

*From Page 32*

"On behalf of the Northern Marianas Athletics board of directors, I am proud to express our sincerest congratulations and thank you to our Oceania Area Athletics Association nominee, NMA general secretary Robin Sapong, for receiving this prestigious award. He certainly deserves it," NMA president Ramon Tebuteb said.

Besides joining other awardees in Doha, Sapong will also represent NMA in the IAAF Congress and will coach her daughter and CNMI sprinter, Zarinae, in the 100m qualifying run in the 2019 IAAF World Athletics Championships at the Khalifa International Stadium.

## Tribune Sports Scores
### 2019 Saipan Baseball League

**TEAM STANDINGS**

| Team | W | L |
|---|---|---|
| C.K. Bears | 4 | 0 |
| Mariners | 2 | 1 |
| GSM | 2 | 2 |
| Blue Jays | 1 | 2 |
| Aces | 0 | |
| Rockies | 0 | 3 |

3

**BATTING LEADERS**
(Based on 7 or more times at-bat)

| NAME | TEAM | AB | HITS | AVG. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Andres Camacho | Blue Jays | 7 | 5 | .714 |
| Angel Palacios | C.K. Bears | 10 | 6 | .600 |
| Henry Lizama | C.K. Bears | 16 | 8 | .500 |
| J.J. Lifoifoi | C.K. Bears | 13 | 6 | .462 |
| Virgil Secharmidal | C.K. Bears | 7 | 3 | .429 |
| Nate Camacho | Mariners | 8 | 3 | .375 |
| Tony Tenorio | Mariners | 8 | 3 | .375 |
| Patrick Tenorio | Mariners | 11 | 4 | .364 |
| Josenio Alvares | Blue Jays | 10 | 3 | .300 |
| Kiku Lizama | C.K. Bears | 17 | 5 | .294 |

**INDIVIDUAL LEADERS**
**Runs Scored:** (6) A.J. Lizama, Henry Lizama; (5)Ricardo Dela Cruz; (4) Kiku Lizama, Lorenzo Sebaklim, Virgil Secharmidal, J.J. Lifoifoi, Auriel Mendiola
**Doubles:** (2) Kiku Lizama, Ricardo Dela Cruz, Tony Tenorio; (1) Lorenzo Sebaklim, Kimo Angailen, A.J. Lizama, Fred Songao, Ben Lizama, Patrick Tenorio, Jonah Flores, Mario Salas
**Triples:** (1) Cris Meyers, Henry Lizama, Nate Camacho.
**Home runs:** (1) Noel Cabrera
**RBIs:** (5) Noel Cabrera, J.J. Lifofoi; (4) Angel Palacios, Tony Tenorio; (3) Fred Songao, Franklin Lizama, Ricardo Dela Cruz, Josenio Alvarez, Nate Camacho.

**PITCHING LEADERS**
(Based on 4 or more innings pitch)

| NAME | TEAM | GMS | INN | ER | HIB | W/L | ERA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jose Lizama | C.K. Bears | 3 | 15.1 | 0 | 7 | 3-0 | 0.00 |
| Virgil Secharmidal | C.K. Bears | 1 | 7 | 0 | 5 | 1-0 | 0.00 |
| Dave Camacho | Aces | 1 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0-0 | 0.00 |
| Shane Mendiola | Mariners | 1 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 1-0 | 1.40 |
| Kevin Kapileo | GSM | 1 | 4.1 | 1 | 4 | 1-0 | 1.71 |
| Tyrese Camacho | Mariners | 2 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 0-0 | 2.33 |
| T.J. Dela Cruz | Rockies | 1 | 5 | 2 | 9 | 0-1 | 2.80 |
| Jerald Cabrera | Rockies | 1 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 0-1 | 4.20 |
| Noel Cabrera | Blue Jays | 3 | 16.2 | 10 | 24 | 1-2 | 4.32 |
| Jose Deleon Guerrero | Aces | 2 | 7 | 6 | 14 | 0-1 | 6.00 |

**Strikeouts:** (14) Noel Cabrera; (11) Tyrese Camacho; (6) L.J. Sebaklim, Jose Lizama, Virgil Secharmidal, Kevin Kapileo, Shane Mendiola, Jerald Cabrera; (5) Nate Camacho

# Kautz takes SGA June Ace

Rick Kautz will have a chance to defend his Saipan Golfers Association Ace of Aces title, as he qualified for the club championship after topping the June tournament.

Kautz shot a net 70 for a one-stroke win over Tony Deleon Guerrero in the monthly competition held on the west course of the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort. The 7-handicapper fired a 38 and 39 on the front and back nines, respectively, for a gross 77. Deleon Guerrero, on the other hand, tallied a 43 in the first nine holes and 42 in the last nine for a gross 85 and deducting his 14 handicap, he ended up with a net 71.

With his June Ace, Kautz joined Larry Deleon Guerrero (January), Steve Balakrishna (February), Joe Sablan (March), John "Nanni" Cruz (April), and Ed Manibusan (May) on the list of early club championship qualifiers.

Joining Kautz and Deleon Guerrero in the Top 3 were Nick Sablan, Alex Tudela, and, Balakrishna who submitted similar net scores of 77. The 6-handicapper Sablan recorded a 38 and 45 on the front and back nines, while Tudela posted a 44 and 42, and Balakrishna registered a 46 and 40. Both Tudela and Balakrishna hold a 9 handicap.

In other results, Tony Deleon Guerrero and Juan Diaz made the longest drive on holes No. 2 and 12, respectively, and the former also had a closest to the pin shot on No. 17. Other closest to the pin winners were Cruz on No. 3 and Tudela on No. 13.

Meanwhile, SGA will have its July Ace of the Month Tournament this Sunday at the Kingfisher Golf Links. Showtime is at 9am and tee-off is at 9:30am. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

## HWANG

*From Page 32*

mon Islands' Prudence Bird and the Cook Islands' Joanita Takavety in the girls doubles 2, 2-4, 4-2, 11-9.

Addison also outclassed Takatavety in the singles 4 match, 4-0, 4-1, while the former's compatriot Aidan Schembari prevailed against Kiribati's Torua Boari in the boys singles 3 pairing, 0-4, 4-2, 11-9.

Meanwhile, the CNMI's U14 players will suit up for the North today when they take on the West bets.

Anthony Gregoire and David Kwon are the North's singles 3 and 4 players and they will challenge siblings Noah and Fintan Molbaleh of Vanuatu, respectively. In the girls singles, Hyejin Elliot is pitted against Kiribati's Ereti Tabekatarawa, while Helen Kim will duel Samoa's Emmanuella Masaai, and Serin Chung will take on Vanuatu's Kerry Waita.

In the doubles, Gregoire will be paired with the Federated States of Micronesia's Jones George, while Kwon will play with Jacob Jackson. Serin and Chung will team up in the girls doubles and will face Massai and Waita, while Elliot and Leilah Etscheit will battle Charlotte Nicolaus and Tabekatarawa.

In other matches today, the North will take on the East in the U16 age group, while the West and East collide in the U12 division.

## FITTING

*From Page 32*

nation letter for Sinclair.

Race could not make it to the NMSA meeting last night, as he went straight from Samoa to Fiji to coach the CNMI Juniors National Team in the 2019 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships. He sent Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association's nomination letter way ahead of the NMSA meeting and right away, Race received support and congratulatory messages from other sports federations.

"Thanks to all. We are all very proud to have represented the CNMI and brought back medals. I got a little teary eyed when the flag was raised and they played the anthem," Race said.

Meanwhile, Lee and Robbie Schorr were voted Tan Siu Lin Foundation/NMSA Female and Male Athlete of the Month for their triumphs in Samoa. Schorr partnered with Sinclair, winning a silver medal in the men's doubles, and then worked with the former and Ken Song in ruling the team event. Lee, on the other hand, held her ground and complemented Sinclair in beating No. 1 seed Abigail Tere-Apisah and Matthew Stubbings of Papua New Guinea in the mixed doubles finals. Lee also made it to the quarterfinals of the singles and women's doubles and finished fifth in the team event with Tania Tan, Isabel Heras, and Malika Miyawaki.

"Throughout the team competition, Robbie showed remarkable poise for a 17-year-old against more experienced opponents, particularly in the medal rounds," Race said.

"Carol won the gold medal in mixed doubles with Colin in what was the most thrilling NMI match of the Games. Playing for gold against singles gold medalist Abby Tere-Apisah and silver medalist Matthew Stubbings of PNG, Carol keyed the super tiebreaker comeback from 5-7 down with aggressive net play to win 10-8 and secure the gold," Race added.

All Aces: Astros get Greinke in trade with D-backs

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Kidd, Hollins top Vogel's coaching staff

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# Fitting honor for tennis team

## NMA's Sapong gets recognition from IAAF

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Northern Marianas Athletics general secretary Robin Sapong will be awarded with an International Association of Athletics Federations Veteran Pin in the 52nd IAAF Congress at the Qatar National Convention Center in Doha next month.

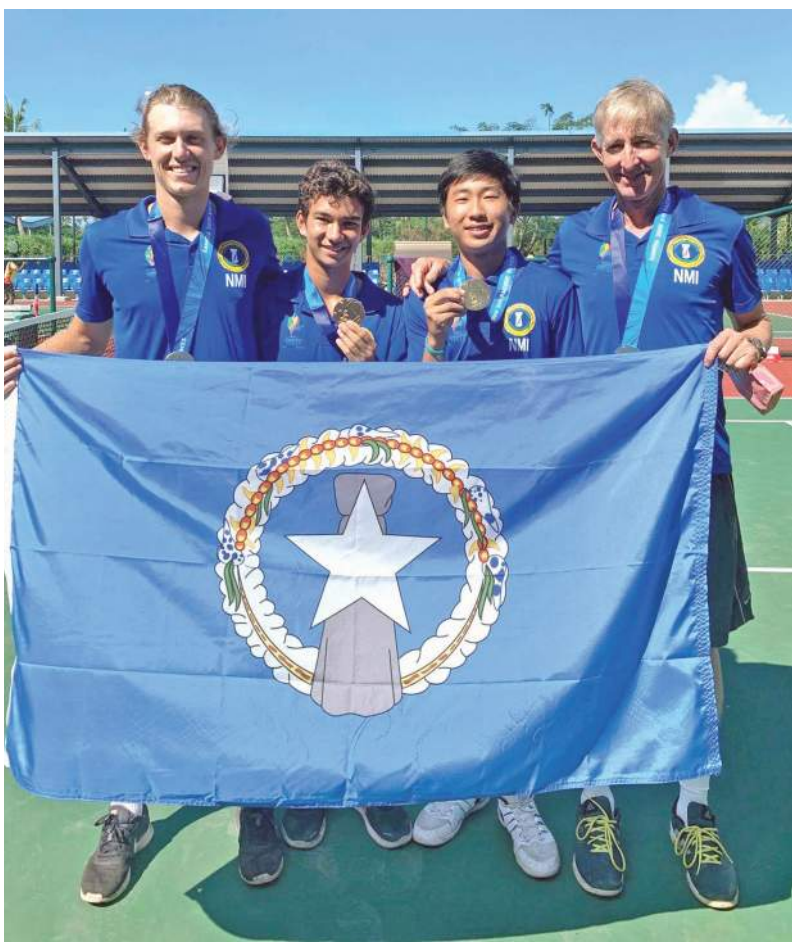
Sapong has been nominated for the recognition by Oceania Athletics Association and got the IAAF nod for his meritorious service in the sport for more than two decades.

"I am honored to receive this recognition and would like to share it with my NMA family, our supporters and sponsors, the Oceania Athletics Association, the Northern Marianas Sports Association, the athletes and coaches, and of course, my family. It is easier to stay in the program and do volunteer work if you continue to get support from the people around you," said Sapong.

The NMA official will join athletes, officials, and other people involved in athletics around the world in the awards ceremony during the kick-off of the IAAF Congress on Sept. 24.

See NMA's on Page 31

NORTHERN MARIANAS ATHLETICS
Robin Sapong speaks during the 2019 Oceania Athletics Association Congress in Australia.



LYDIA TAN
From left, Colin Sinclair, Robbie Schorr, Ken Song, and coach Jeff Race proudly pose with their gold medals after ruling the team event of the tennis competition in last month's XVI Pacific Games in Samoa.

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From left, Carol Lee, Isabel Heras, Tania Tan, and Malika Miyawaki pose for a photo before playing against the Cook Islands in the team event.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI National Tennis Team got the well-deserved recognition from Northern Marianas Sports Association after dominating the monthly awards handed for July.

ATHLETES of the MONTH

The squad, which won three gold medals and a silver in the XVI Pacific Games in Apia, Samoa last month, was named Team of the Month, while three of its members also received individual recognition. The Commonwealth's tennis players got the votes for the group and individual awards from NMSA members last night during the association's monthly meeting at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Colin Sinclair was the hands down winner of the Male Athlete of the Month award for ruling the singles, men's team event, and mixed doubles events in the Pacific Games. Sinclair secured the triple crown after surviving more than 10 games in the last three days of the tennis competition. In the final day of the tournament alone, the world No. 52 (ITF rankings) played four matches, starting off with the singles finale, followed by the men's doubles title game, the continuation of the mixed doubles semis, and then the championship match with Carol Lee.

"Colin was the most dominant tennis player in the Pacific Games. He never came close to losing a set in the singles event," said Jeff Race, the proud coach of the team, in his nomi-

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## Hwang nearly sweeps opener

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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The CNMI's Juncheol Hwang delivered two of the three wins for the North Team in their opening game in the team event of the 2019 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji yesterday.

Hwang prevailed in his singles 2 match over Tahiti and East Team's Keanau Lei Foc, 4-1, 1-4, 10-8, and then made it two in a row after teaming up with Guam's Johnny Jackson in beating Foc and Hiva Kelley in the boys doubles 1, 4-0, 4-1. The Commonwealth player attempted a perfect performance on Day 1 when he and Guam's Freemont Gibson saw action in the mixed doubles 1, but they were defeated by Samoa's Darius Carruthers and Mahina Warren, 4-0, 4-0.

The East Team won the pairing, 11-3, as it topped three of the boys singles play, swept the girls singles, and took five of the six singles events in the U12 age group.

In the U14 division, the East Team also had a convincing victory versus the West, 10-4. The East went 6-for-8 in the singles and got four doubles wins, including a sweep in the last three to have a very productive opening day in the team event.

In the U16 age group, the West dominated the CNM-led North, 10-4.

Sean Lee and Jimin Woo gave the North one win after nosing out the Solomon Islands' Junior Miki and Fiji's Maka Ofati in the boys doubles 1, 5-4 (4), 5-4 (5). Another CNMI player, Maria Gregoire, delivered, as she teamed up with Guam's Alicia Addison in slipping past the Solo-

See HWANG on Page 31

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Juncheol Hwang, seen here serving in a local tournament, won two of his three matches in the team event of the 2019 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji yesterday.

All Aces: Astros get Greinke in trade with D-backs

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Kidd, Hollins top Vogel's coaching staff

PAGE 29

# Fitting honor for tennis players

## NMA's Sapong gets recognition from IAAF

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Northern Marianas Athletics general secretary Robin Sapong will be awarded with an International Association of Athletics Federations Veteran Pin in the 52nd IAAF Congress at the Qatar National Convention Center in Doha next month.

Sapong has been nominated for the recognition by Oceania Athletics Association and got the IAAF nod for his meritorious service in the sport for more than two decades.

"I am honored to receive this recognition and would like to share it with my NMA family, our supporters and sponsors, the Oceania Athletics Association, the Northern Marianas Sports Association, the athletes and coaches, and of course, my family. It is easier to stay in the program and do volunteer work if you continue to get support from the people around you," said Sapong.

The NMA official will join athletes, officials, and other people involved in athletics around the world in the awards ceremony during the kick-off of the IAAF Congress on Sept. 24.

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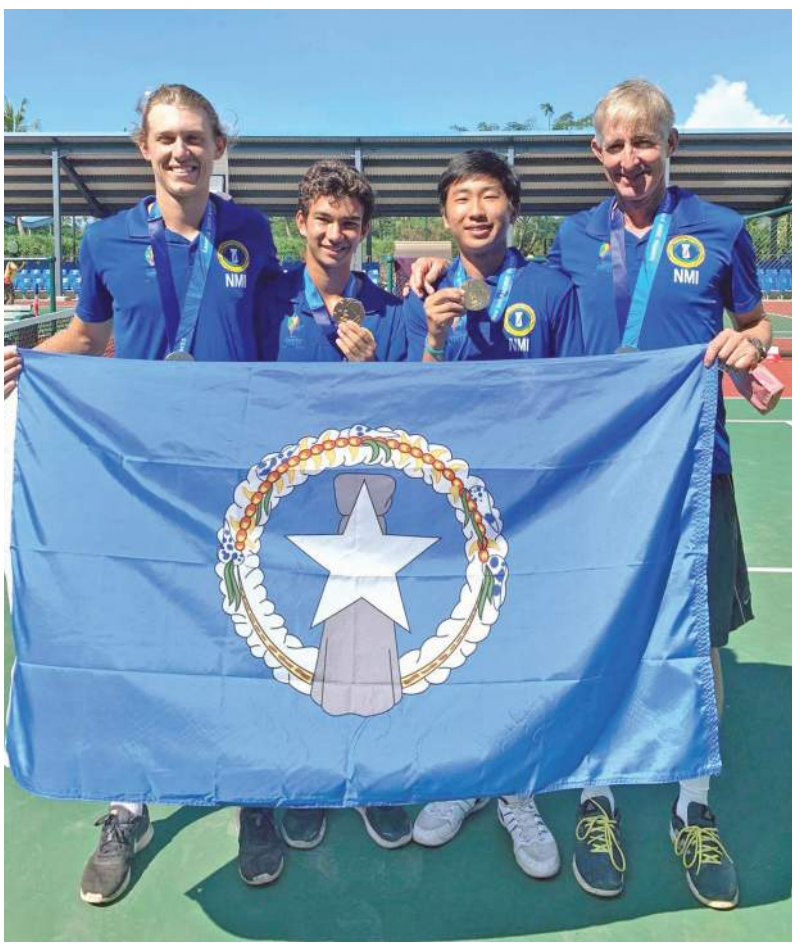
NORTHERN MARIANAS ATHLETICS
Robin Sapong speaks during the 2019 Oceania Athletics Association Congress in Australia.



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